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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

*FBIS-NES-93-086*

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*6 May 1993*

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## Draft Expected in Multilateral Economic Talks in Rome

*TA0505140893 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 May 93 p A4*

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar and Judy Maltz]

[Text] The working groups on regional economic development in the multilateral talks opened yesterday in Rome on a jarring note when the Palestinians sharply attacked Israel over the deportations and the ongoing closure, and their economic repercussions. They demanded the setting up of subcommittees on human rights and Jerusalem. They also called for permitting East Jerusalemites to participate in the talks.

When the issue of Middle East tourism came up, the Palestinian representative stood up and asserted: "What tourism are you talking about when we cannot tour from Nabulus to Jerusalem?"

Dr. 'Oded 'Aran, coordinator of the Israeli delegation, said last night that we can expect a joint draft to be worked out which will express ways to resolve the immediate plight of the inhabitants of the territories and at the same time present plans for regional development in the peace era. World Bank representatives in the talks promised to fund feasibility surveys of international projects.

Within this framework, the Japanese delegates to the talks presented their proposal for a regional tourism project, which they said would not require large investments.

The French presented their suggestions for the establishment of a railway system between the countries of the region while the Italians spoke about their plan to pave the eastern Mediterranean bypass road between Turkey and Egypt. "The most important thing is that before the talks started, we in the Israeli delegation outlined several targets, the most important being to move from a discussion on general issues to one of concrete ideas," Bank of Israel Governor Ya'aqov Frenkel said. "We suggested the establishment of forums of experts, which will meet between sessions in order to prepare feasibility surveys.

"These surveys will be studied by an objective group, such as the World Bank," Frenkel said, and added that the Israeli delegation insists that the entire project must have regional significance. "This demand is apparently acceptable to all sides," he said.

Prof. Frenkel last night expressed satisfaction with the opening of the talks. Forty-six states and organizations are participating in the Rome talks with the aim of advancing economic cooperation projects in the Middle East. Syria and Lebanon are absent because they believe that it is too early to join in the multilaterals as long as no significant progress has been made in the bilaterals.

At the opening of the talks, the World Bank representative presented an initial report on the economies of the countries of the region, including the territories. The report, to be finalized in six weeks, notes the importance of dealing with regional projects.

Yesterday's opening became possible after the PLO agreed to replace Dr. Yusuf al-Sayigh, a member of the Palestine National Council, with somebody else from the Palestinian diaspora. In an arrangement worked out with U.S. mediation and the assistance of Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, it was agreed that al-Sayigh can be part of the Palestinian delegation but cannot enter the conference room.

Samir Halilah, a senior member of the Palestinian delegation to the talks, said that the World Bank is studying a $1 billion aid package for the development of the territories during the interim period as part of the autonomy framework. The money will go to developing the infrastructure of the territories.

Halilah also said that the World Bank is preparing a separate aid package of $30 million to study the possibility of improving conditions, which will be implemented if Israel and the Palestinians reach an agreement on the interim period of the self-government.

Halilah added that the European, American, and Japanese representatives, who will convene on 11 May in Rome, will discuss 21 projects for economic collaboration in the region.

Another Palestinian delegate, Muhammad Shatayah [name as published], said yesterday that the World Bank noted that a great deal of damage has been caused to infrastructure, such as roads and hospitals, and that there is an urgent need for their rehabilitation. Ahmad Abu-al-'Ala', the PLO's economic adviser, demanded $1 billion "immediate" emergency aid for the occupied territories.

## Talks End on 'Upbeat' Note

*TA0505182793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] In Rome, delegates from Israel, Arab countries, and the European Community have wrapped up two days of multilateral talks on regional economic development. The focus was on setting up means to evaluate needs in the area, and the assessment by the participants was upbeat. From Rome, Lisa Billing reports:

Concrete results were obtained at the two-day multilateral talks on regional development, said the two leaders of the Israeli delegation, Ya'aqov Frenkel, governor of the Bank of Israel, and David Kimche, former director of the Foreign Ministry. First-time intersession meetings of experts, and stepped up feasibility studies sponsored by the World Bank—cost estimated by Mr. Frenkel at $40 million—are planned for the future. However, the choice of priority areas must yet be made. Initial skirmishes between the Israeli and Palestinian delegations on political issues were quickly subdued with suggestions that these questions be relegated to the bilateral realm, leaving this working group free to proceed.

The Israeli delegation leaders felt definite progress has been made, and noted that an anonymous delegate from an Arab country has expressed warm support for Israel's proposal for agricultural cooperation, particularly regarding irrigation techniques for desert areas. Not only intersession meetings, but intergroup meetings with the commission on environment will be necessary in this area, said Mr. Kimche.

Israel also pointed out the counterproductive and paradoxical effects of the continuing Arab boycott at a time when all are advocating confidence building measures, said Mr. Frenkel.

Another point stressed by Israel was the importance of giving priority to combating poverty and raising the standard of living in the entire region.

The Palestinians pleaded for a $1 billion grant in emergency aid, but thanked the U.S. and Italy for the $14 million and $3 million respectively set aside, even though this fell short of their goal. Italy's offer to cooperate in creating a channel between the Dead and the Red Seas is just one of many imaginative projects discussed.

## Arab-Israeli Talks

### Middle East Peace Talks in Washington Continue

#### 'Abd-al-Shafi Denies 'Real Progress'

*TA0505144193 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 5 May 93 pp 1, 11*

[Text] Amman, QUDS PRESS—Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, has said that the Palestinian negotiating delegation will be ready to deal with Israel's proposals on the transfer of powers if settlement in the occupied Palestinian territories is stopped and if Israel commits itself to the terms of reference of the peace process, especially Resolution 242. Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi noted that "so far there has been no movement in this direction. Therefore, we cannot deal realistically with the issue of the transfer of powers."

In a telephone contact that the QUDS PRESS correspondent in Amman held with him yesterday, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi denied that the ninth round of negotiations, which began in Washington a week ago, had achieved what can be called "real progress" on the Palestinian track. He said: We are continuing to explore Israel's readiness to make real concessions. In fact, I do not call them concessions, but an Israeli commitment to the principle of the peace process. So far, there has been nothing of the sort.

Commenting on the tone of optimism in the statements of some members of the Palestinian delegation, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi cautioned against "raising the hopes of Palestinians abnormally regarding what might happen, because afterward the disappointment will be great." He stressed: We want our people not to be overoptimistic. At the same time we are exerting the utmost efforts to utilize this round. So far, we have not obtained anything. Perhaps, some people look at the half-full glass, but I look at the empty half.

Addressing the Palestinian people, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi said: I tell the Palestinian street that we came to this round of talks to test the Israeli position and its seriousness regarding the peace process. We also came to test the readiness of the U.S. sponsor—to what extent will it abandon its biased stance and act for the integrity and credibility of the peace process.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi said: Our interest in the Marj al-Zuhur deportees is the same as our interest in other issues that concern our people.

#### Israel's Lubrani on Talks With Lebanon

*TA0505173793 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 May 93*

[Interview with Uri Lubrani, Israel's chief delegate for talks with Lebanon, by Shlomo Ganor—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles in the Washington studio; date not given]

[Text] [Ganor] Mr. Lubrani, what is the meaning of the new formula Israel presented to Lebanon?

[Lubrani] It provides a political framework to our offer to set up a joint committee of army officers that will deal with all the security issues under discussion between us and Lebanon. We have made a decision to make a gesture—a very significant gesture, I believe—in which we provided a political framework to an offer we had made which so far had been isolated of political issues.

[Ganor] Does the offer mean that Israel will withdraw from the security zone and disperse the SLA [South Lebanese Army]?

[Lubrani] From Israel's point of view, there will be no change in our current deployment—including the security zone, the SLA, and every other aspect connected to this—before we reach a peace agreement, part of which will be the security arrangements which this committee should discuss.

#### 'Abd-al-Shafi on Transfer of Authority

*JN0505182493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 May 93*

[Interview with Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington, by radio correspondent Sa'id Mu'addi, carried in the "With the Events" program; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Mu'addi] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, good evening.

['Abd-al-Shafi] Good evening.

[Mu'addi] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi: What are the proposals the Israeli delegation has offered to the Palestinian side on transferring authority to the inhabitants of the territories?

['Abd-al-Shafi] The Israeli delegation is talking enthusiastically about its readiness to transfer authority to the Palestinians and the transitional government. This is good. We are listening to this, and we are ready to deal with it if we reach an agreement on the issue of land.

[Mu'addi] Has the Palestinian side presented a new list of deportees to be returned to the territories?

['Abd-al-Shafi] Although I am far from this issue, I believe that there was a list with Israel before the start of this round of talks. In this regard, I would like to say that Israel has not fulfilled its promises concerning those deported before 1987 [as heard] or those stranded in Marj al-Zuhur. Israel had said that a review of the lists would be made and that more than 101 deportees would be returned immediately. Up to now, we have not heard anything about this issue.

[Mu'addi] Regarding negotiations being held by the three working groups, have they reached any formulas or understandings regarding topics listed on the agenda?

['Abd-al-Shafi] We, in the land group, are trying to reach an understanding about the issues of settlement, land, and Jerusalem. In the transitional period group, efforts are still under way to reach concepts that may lead to a document of understanding on principles. We are still far from this.

[Mu'addi] Dr. Haydar, the Palestinian side has made great efforts to persuade the other Arab parties to extend the negotiations for another week. Does this imply any expectations that a breakthrough will take place in the next few days?

['Abd-al-Shafi] All this depends on Israel's readiness to comply with the requirements of peace.

[Mu'addi] Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi and Faysal al-Husayni are optimistic about progress in these negotiations. Do you share their optimism?

['Abd-al-Shafi] Optimistic? I personally do not like the issue of optimism versus pessimism. We are trying to overcome a stalemate, and we hope that before the end of this round, there will be progress and an agreement on principles.

[Mu'addi] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian side, thank you very much.

['Abd-al-Shafi] You are welcome.

## Syria's al-'Allaf on Extension

*JN0505173393 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1650 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Washington, 5 May (SANA)—Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation to the peace talks, has said that during their coordination meeting last night, heads of the Arab delegations to these talks agreed to extend the current ninth round of talks for a third week as a gesture to show more responsiveness toward the peace process.

In a statement before the meetings of the sixth day of this round, which began on 27 April and which was scheduled to end tomorrow, al-'Allaf said that in a gesture to show more responsiveness toward the peace process, and despite the unsatisfactory results of the meetings held during the past few days of this round, the Arab delegations decided to respond to an invitation to extend this round for another week.

Al-'Allaf expressed hope that this extension will lead, at least for the first time, to tangible results in the peace process.

Asked whether he expects a meeting between the delegations participating in the peace process and U.S. President Bill Clinton next week, al-'Allaf said: We have not received any information in this regard. However, I think that such a meeting would provide another symbolic incentive for the peace process.

## 'Ashrawi Holds News Conference

*TA0505193093 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokesman of the Palestinian delegation for the peace talks, said that the Arab delegations have decided to continue the talks next week. Our correspondent in Washington Arye Golan reports that speaking at a news conference, 'Ashrawi said the negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinians are difficult and that real gaps exist, but the sides have started dealing with the real substance of the problems. Answering a question, 'Ashrawi said that a new attitude is evinced by the Israeli side in certain areas, but hard work remains to be done in order to achieve progress.

## Israeli-Jordanian Groups Set Up

*TA0505191293 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 5 May 93*

[Excerpts] The peace negotiations in Washington will continue next week as well. This evening, the Arab delegations notified Israel of their agreement to stay on for the continuation of the talks. In the talks, the negotiations with the Palestinians in the working groups continued today. Also, three joint Israeli-Jordanian working groups were set up, and they will begin discussing bilateral issues. Our correspondent Ya'ir Stern reports from Washington:

[Begin recording] [Stern] The talks with the Palestinians this morning opened in a jarring note after the East Jerusalem press reported that Israel is selling old goods in a new wrapping. The strange thing about this is the fact that the Palestinians in Washington are holding businesslike negotiations with Israel on the one hand, while sending home messages of a different nature, perhaps to attain additional Israeli concessions. [passage omitted]

This evening, as the committees started their work, the Israelis asked the Palestinians to update their constituents of the situation as it really is, meaning: There are substantial differences between the parties, but businesslike negotiations are being conducted, and the parties hope to reach a statement of principles regarding the structure of the self-rule and its authorities in the current round of talks. Elyaqim Rubinstein, head of the Israeli delegation for talks with the Palestinians, said this morning:

[Rubinstein] Just the opposite is true. We are discussing serious matters. We are making serious offers, which are full and detailed as far as the Palestinians are concerned. There is a chance for a great change, when compared with the current state of affairs, in every aspect. Naturally, the offers protect Israel's interests, this is self-evident, but the Palestinian population should hear the facts as they really are. The half-full cup is very full.

[Stern] [passage omitted] Reports in this morning's Israeli press that there is a Lebanese willingness to provide information regarding missing navigator Ron Arad have caused damage to the issue of the MIA's and POW's because, at this moment, the Lebanese delegation has no news about them. Uri Lubrani, head of the Israeli delegation for talks with the Lebanese:

[Lubrani] We handed them the list of our MIA's and POW's. Nevertheless, I would like to tell you that this is not a matter for the media. It should not be dealt with in public, and I would like to tell you that there are sometimes media reports—some true, others partly true—which make it very difficult to handle this matter.

[Stern] In the framework of the negotiations with Jordan, it has been decided to set up three joint working teams, which have already started working. One team will deal with issues of security and drawing the future borders between the two states; the second team will deal with water, energy, and environment; and the third will handle the issues of refugees, economy, tourism, health, and fighting drugs.

One problem has already been solved: The Arab delegations announced that they agree to stay for at least another week of discussions to continue the negotiations. Following consultations they held last night, the Arabs issued a statement saying that President Clinton will receive all of the delegations next week and urge them to continue the process. [end recording]

## Syria Rejects Israeli Amendment

*JN0505211893 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Washington—Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation to the peace talks, has announced that during today's meeting, discussions centered on the fifth item of the Syrian document, related to Israeli withdrawal and the land-for-peace equation.

In a statement following today's meeting, he said: Today we continued to discuss the introduction to the fifth item of the document and then moved on to the first substantive issues in that item; namely, withdrawal. Discussions are still going on. However, he said, evidence shows no shift in Israel's position, adding that during this meeting, the Syrian delegation rejected a formula presented by the Israeli side amending the original text of the document on total withdrawal. He said: We will not accept this formula as it conflicts with Security Council Resolution 242 and the principle of land for peace. Moreover, it is no more than a repetition of previous Israeli ideas on this issue, he added.

In response to a reporter's question, al-'Allaf explained that total withdrawal is a demand stipulated in Resolutions 242 and 338 and is based on the principle of land for peace, adding that without such a total withdrawal, no peaceful settlement can be achieved, as withdrawal is an essential and basic element that should not be tampered with. Al-'Allaf also said that the Syrian document contains many other matters related to the other side of the equation, such as a peace agreement and security arrangements and that unless the other side implements the part related to it in this equation, our side cannot implement what is related to it.

Answering another question, al-'Allaf said: We are clear in terms of our commitments demanded by Resolution 242, while the Israeli side is not ready to commit itself to the issue of withdrawal. Whenever it talks about withdrawal, he added, it links that issue with totally unacceptable conditions and concepts such as limited withdrawal rather than total withdrawal, or with concepts which have nothing to do with withdrawal, like the concept of secure and recognized borders. He added that Security Council Resolution 242 calls for withdrawal from territories occupied in 1967 and also stipulates the inadmissibility of acquiring land by force. This stipulates, he said, that Israel, one of the parties in the equation, should withdraw from all territories it occupied in 1967 to pave the way for realizing the principle of land for peace.

## Israel's Rabinovich on Syrian Document

*TA0605051093 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 6 May 93*

[Report by Arye Golan in Washington]

[Excerpts] The Israeli-Syrian dispute continues focusing around Article 5 of the Syrian document, which refers to full withdrawal. Muwaffaq al-'Allaf and his delegation are being instructed by their bosses in Damascus to get

Israel's agreement to a full withdrawal, but the ball, in fact, lies in the Syrian capital, Ambassador Rabinovich says.

[Begin Rabinovich recording] In order to get past the stage in which we spend each day discussing their and our interpretation of Article 5 and the question of who responds first, political decisions must be made in Damascus, and we know what decision must be made there. We are ready to continue here, but if a significant change is to take place, political decisions must be made in Damascus. [end recording] [passage omitted covered in first referent item]

In the plenum with the Palestinians, Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi raised the incidents in the territories. What is happening there does not conform with the peace talks and can destroy the credibility of the process, he said. Elyaqim Rubinstein responded that the four killed in Gaza by the Border Police were terrorists whose hands were covered with Israeli and Palestinian blood. Despite these exchanges and the other difficulties, the peace talks will continue next week.

### Palestinians Suspend Human Rights Talks

*TA0605060693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] In a surprising move, the Palestinians have suspended the discussions in the working group on human rights in the territories for one week. Israeli sources in Washington said last night that the suspension is not of great import to the talks but results from internal problems in the Palestinian delegation. Arye Golan reports from Washington:

In the last meeting of the Israeli-Palestinian working group on human rights and living conditions in the territories, there was no sign of what was about to take place, but when they ended, the Palestinians suddenly announced that Israel is not carrying out its promise to announce its shortening of the expulsion periods of the 400 Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] activists and their early return via the appeals committees. Therefore, Hanan 'Ashrawi said later, the Palestinians are suspending the meetings of the working groups on human rights until the middle of next week. The surprised Israelis expressed regret.

Israeli delegation members said the move has nothing to do with what is happening in the working group's discussions and that the Palestinian move results from internal problems in their delegation. Senior Israeli sources added that the killing of four wanted men by border policemen in Gaza this week strengthened the hawkish line of Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, the leader of the Gaza wing in the Palestinian delegation, who was joined by 'Ashrawi, who was hurt by Israel's refusal to include her in the delegation although Faysal al-Husayni was permitted to join.

[In a related report on this Qol Yisra'el 0405 GMT newsreel, correspondent Shlomo Raz adds that in "the most dramatic development at this stage of the negotiations with the Palestinians, Israel is on the verge of signing a joint document with the Palestinians. This will constitute the main effort during the coming week of negotiations in Washington. The document clearly refers to a readiness for territorial compromise in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip as well. We recall that this will be done in the spirit of Labor's platform. The negotiations are now over the interim arrangement and not the permanent settlement, but Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which refer to the permanent settlement—territorial compromise—will be added in writing."]

### Al-'Allaf on 'Retreat' in Israeli Position

*JN0605080993 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 6 May 93*

[Excerpts] Washington—Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation to the peace talks, has said that in yesterday's meeting discussions were resumed on the fifth article of the Syrian document concerning the issues of withdrawal and the land-for-peace formula. [passage omitted]

In a statement to Abu Dhabi-based AL-ITTIHAD yesterday, al-'Allaf asserted that there had been a retreat in the ninth round of peace talks on the Syrian-Israeli track, and that the desired objectives had not been achieved. This is so because the Israeli side deliberately obstructs the peace talks by delaying substantial proposals that would stress Israel's commitment to full withdrawal from the occupied Golan. Al-'Allaf asserted that Syria will not accept less than full withdrawal from the Golan, and that there has been a great retreat in the Israeli position.

### Israeli-Palestinian Progress Detailed

*TA0605101493 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 May 93 p A2*

["Exclusive" report by Ori Nir from Washington]

[Excerpt] Accelerated progress toward a joint Israeli-Palestinian declaration of principles was achieved in the Washington negotiations in the past two days. The two sides have almost entirely completed the formulation of the most troublesome clause of the declaration, which deals with the aim of the negotiations, the link between the interim and permanent arrangements, and the territorial validity of the permanent arrangements. This was reported yesterday by Israeli sources in Washington.

In negotiations conducted within the framework of one of the two working groups set up by the sides, Israel agreed to use the term "territorial integrity" [preceding two words in English] in reference to territories in which interim arrangements are to be established. The term has served to temporarily allay the Palestinians' concern regarding the status of East Jerusalem. Israeli sources said that they understand this term to mean that the interim arrangements will apply to all territories currently subject to Israeli military rule (the West Bank and Gaza Strip) and not to Jerusalem. At the same time, the vague term will possibly provide both sides with a convenient excuse to postpone a detailed discussion of the issue to a later stage.

Another shift in the Israeli stand, which enabled progress in talks with the Palestinians, was Israel's readiness to discuss the possibility of "mutually agreed international supervision" over elections that will be held in the territories. Israeli sources said they do not view this as an opening for UN supervision of the elections. They added that Israel will be willing to consent to supervision by observers from the United States, for example. The sources confirmed that Israel is not opposed to this formulation.

Palestinian delegation spokesman Hanan 'Ashrawi said yesterday that Israel's agreement to formulations such as "territorial integrity" and "agreed international supervision" of the elections has broken a taboo in Israeli stands. She referred to another term to which Israel has agreed: "reciprocal ratification" of legislation to be passed by the Palestinian council during the interim arrangements phase. Both 'Ashrawi and Israeli spokesmen refused to explain the meaning of this term, which apparently speaks of an apparatus the two sides will work out to ensure that Israel has a right to intervene in the Palestinian council's legislative powers during the interim arrangements. The term may reflect an intention to give the Palestinians authority to intervene in Israeli legislative procedures pertaining to the territories. It is possible that any such intervention would be retroactive and that in its framework, existing Israeli laws applying to the territories would be reviewed. No clarifications on the issue were available last night.

Elements from both delegations said in the past two days that the two sides may sign a joint declaration of principles already in this round of talks, to provide "a framework of political reference for the negotiations," to cite 'Ashrawi. [passage omitted]

### Al-Husayni Says Atmosphere 'Serious'

*NC0605071093 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0510 GMT 6 May 93*

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, head of the Palestinian delegation's steering committee and a prominent member of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, in Washington, by Fawzi al-Jundi, in Cairo, in the "Dialogue From Afar" program; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Jundi] Let us begin with a general picture of the atmosphere at the negotiations with the Israeli side.

[Al-Husayni] The atmosphere is serious. We cannot be too optimistic or too pessimistic, but, as I said, the negotiations are serious. Some issues progress and others still face obstacles. There are (?disturbing elements) and at the same time good steps on the ground, hence we are in the midst of developments that we cannot judge now.

[Al-Jundi] Do you mean by this seriousness that substantial issues have been firmly put to the negotiating table?

[Al-Husayni] Let me say that the Israeli side showed a readiness to discuss these points and that by this weekend, we believe the door could be open. By next week it will be clear [if substantial issues have been raised].

[Al-Jundi] Does the extension of talks by a week mean agreements will be signed soon?

[Al-Husayni] I cannot say that, but we believe that extension by a week could give positive results, while no extension would mean no fruit. So we preferred to effect the measure [of an extension].

[Al-Jundi] What is your comment on the announcement by President 'Arafat's adviser Nabil Sha'th that the two sides will soon reach a joint declaration of principles?

[Al-Husayni] This subject is under discussion amid some ebb and flow. Let us not give dates, but expect something. In any case, we cannot set a date.

[Al-Jundi] Have you covered much ground on the issue of self- rule playing a prominent part in this ninth round?

[Al-Husayni] We are talking about a transitional phase and self-government during which power will be transferred from the Israeli side to the Palestinians. Talk on this issue is expanded and there are some Israeli proposals to initiate a power transfer. We believe that first we must devise a general framework for this process for the transitional period and then we can move to ways of transferring power from the Israelis to the (?Palestinians).

[Al-Jundi] Do you think the Israeli proposals in this respect are within the context of aiming for a final stage or do they merely focus on the form of the transitional stage?

[Al-Husayni] This is what prompted us to be adamant that there should first be an agreement on the concept so that we can proceed, knowing that our steps serve the final stage and are not just a temporary process to remove some of the burdens under which Israel now labors.

[Al-Jundi] News from Tel Aviv cites Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres saying that he envisages a final solution in the setting up of a confederation between Jordan and the Palestinians in Gaza and the Strip. Rabin does not agree with this vision. Is there a specific view on this issue at the negotiations with the Israeli side?

[Al-Husayni] We (?envisage) that in the final stage we should have a Palestinian state and afterward we prefer a confederation with Jordan. But this, as you know, requires the endorsement of both governments and peoples. If we view the future now, confederation is one of the forms of a solution that could be good and acceptable to the Palestinians. But this issue does not concern the Palestinians alone; it is a Palestinian-Israeli issue.

[Al-Jundi] Is the United States' interpretation of the role of full partner clear to you? Can we say this role has begun to bear fruit?

[Al-Husayni] There is some kind of intense U.S. effort in this round, but it is too early for us to judge the role.

[Al-Jundi] President Clinton will meet the Arab delegation heads in the next few days in response to a request by Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation. What do you expect from this meeting with President Clinton?

[Al-Husayni] I believe the meeting is very important. He is the new President of the United States and we believe he should have a relationship with the Arab side in general and with the Palestinian side in particular. There can be no Israeli-U.S. relations and meetings with the U.S. President while the Palestinian side is absent.

[Al-Jundi] The progress between you and the Israeli side is accompanied by inertia in the negotiations with the Syrian side. In previous rounds, we noticed progress on the Israeli-Syrian front and a lag on the Palestinian-Israeli front. Are there contacts under way between you and other Arab sides negotiating with the Israeli side to formulate a unified stance?

[Al-Husayni] Such contacts and coordination always take place. I believe everyone knows of the plots or maneuvers that aim to imply that one course progresses while another lags behind. On the Arab level, I think we are fully aware of this subject. There is adequate coordination to avert any negative outcome resulting from this policy.

## Inter-Arab Affairs

### League Chief on Arab Reconciliation, Peace Talks

*NC0605105093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0905 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Cairo, 6 May (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has affirmed that all the Arab countries have agreed on the planned Arab reconciliation initiative in principle, but that Kuwait, at the Arab League Council meeting in April, thought the time was not right and the initiative must be submitted to Arab kings and presidents.

Speaking at a seminar at the journalists syndicate last night, 'Abd-al-Majid said the planned initiative is a necessity for confronting the challenges facing the Arab nation. He added that the initiative contains several bases and principles, most importantly respect for all Arab countries' regimes and territorial integrity, rejection of the principle of threat and use of force among Arab countries, settling disputes peacefully, and commitment by the Arab countries not to launch media campaigns against each other.

He went on to say that the initiative provides for the formation of an Arab troika committee modeled after the European troika, comprising the League council's former chairman Egypt, current chairman Morocco, and next chairman Mauritania, in addition to the Arab League secretary general, to take charge of the reconciliation efforts and work for the success of the initiative.

'Abd-al-Majid said he believed the ongoing Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington have begun a phase of serious discussion of details and noted that the whole of Golan will return just as Sinai returned to Egypt. He said the Palestinian delegation is a good and reliable negotiator and will not give up its demands. He added that the Arab countries now have no alternative but to cling to the peace option in which they are engaged from a position of strength, not weakness.

He said there is no such thing as the "Middle East market" and that a boycott must exist when there is a state of war with another country, adding that the situation will be different when peace is established.

He said he does not object to visiting Iraq on the condition that the Iraqi authorities are prepared to help his visit achieve noticeable success in resolving the Kuwaiti detainees issue.

He said that on international forums, he asserts his deep regret that the international community uses double standards in dealing with some Arab issues, such as applying pressure to Libya to implement Security Council resolutions, while not pressuring Israel to implement Security Council Resolution 799 on the Palestinian deportees repatriation.

'Abd-al-Majid is expected to conduct a tour of all Arab countries, the date of which has not been fixed, to discuss his initiative on Arab reconciliation and current Arab issues.

### Iraqi Arab League Envoy Says Kuwaitis To Be Repatriated

*NC0505203093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1909 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Cairo, 5 May (MENA)—Iraq has decided to hand over six Kuwaiti brothers who entered Iraqi territory by crossing the border.

Iraq's Arab League Representative Nabil Najm stated this, saying that he informed Arab League Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid of the decision.

He said the Iraqi Government is arranging with the International Committee of the Red Cross in Baghdad to repatriate the six Kuwaitis.

## Palestinian Affairs

### Brotherhood, PLO 'Heated Debate' Over Talks

*JN0605063693 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 6-7 May 93 pp 1,2*

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter Maryam M. Shahin]

[Excerpt] Amman—A heated debate has erupted between Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood movement and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat over Arab participation in Arab-Israeli peace talks.

A letter the Brotherhood sent to the Palestinian leader urging him to order a Palestinian withdrawal from the on-going peace process was described by the PLO chairman as interference in Palestinian affairs.

"I appreciate your concern to inform us about your opinion... but we express our regrets over the contents of your message which we consider an intervention in national Palestinian affairs," said Mr. 'Arafat in a reply, according to Reuters.

The Brotherhood's parliamentary spokesman, Ibrahim Khuraysat, said that the Brotherhood had sent letters to heads of all Arab governments which are participating in round nine of the Arab-Israeli peace talks urging them to withdraw their respective delegations from the talks.

"Chairman 'Arafat appears to think that the issue of Palestine concerns the PLO alone while in reality it is an Arab and Islamic concern," Mr. Khuraysat told the Jordan Times Wednesday.

Amman and Tunis-based PLO officials appeared unaware of the written communications between the Brotherhood and Chairman 'Arafat. "I will ask him if he has been in touch with the Brotherhood here," said Palestinian official 'Abbas Zaki. The PLO information office in Tunis also was unaware of the exchange of messages. "We are not aware of a dialogue between the two sides," said the director of the PLO information office in Tunis, Jamil Hilal.

The Brotherhood said Wednesday that it would publicise the contents of Mr. 'Arafat's letter once they had drawn up an official reply and would release the two letters Saturday during a press conference. [passage omitted]

### Hamas Denies Threatening Delegation Members

*PM0605090493 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 3 May 93 p 3*

[Unattributed report: "Hamas Denies Threatening Palestinian Delegation"]

[Text] London, AL-HAYAH—The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) has denied threatening any member of the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations. It stressed that its rules "prohibit infighting" among Palestinian factions, despite its strong opposition to the negotiations.

In a statement of which AL-HAYAH has obtained a copy, Hamas cited a report carried by Israeli radio about the arrest of a group of the movement's elements accused of threatening delegation member Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat. The statement said: "We continue to reemphasize that the movement's policy has never adopted the method of making direct or indirect threats (...). Hamas is proud that its bullets have only been aimed against the Zionist enemy, and that its rules prohibit infighting."

The statement added: "Members of the so-called negotiating delegation know better than anyone else that they have received no threats from Hamas. And most of them have confirmed this to the media. But regrettably some groups affiliated to the influential leadership in the PLO continue to fuel the accusation campaign, pour fuel on the fire, and promote what is said by the Zionist media, which is programmed to foment sedition."

The statement pointed out that "these groups think that the methods of liquidation, threats, and fomenting sedition used in dealing with some Palestinian factions in some Arab arenas are a useful way to deal with Hamas, thus contradicting the slogans they are raising about national unity."

### 'Arafat Aide Looks for Results From Latest Talks

*PM0605080593 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 May 93 p 2*

['Ali al-Salih report: "Abu-Sharif Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Resumption of Contacts Between United States and PLO Imminent; Return of 15 Palestinians Step Toward Return of All Deportees"]

[Excerpts] London—Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, expects relations between the PLO and the United States to resume soon. We, he said, expect the U.S. Administration to fulfill its pledges, most importantly transferring authority—in an orderly manner—from Israeli occupation to self-government with powers.

Abu-Sharif considered the return of the batch of Palestinian deportees a step toward the return of all those deported from the occupied territories.

This came in a statement he gave to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in his office in the Tunisian capital. [passage omitted]

Asked what the Palestinians expect from the Americans, Abu-Sharif said: "We expect the U.S. Administration, which has become a full partner in the peace process, to fulfill its pledges announced publicly by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. The most important of these pledges are: To transfer authority in an orderly and peaceful manner from Israeli occupation to Palestinian self-government with powers. And to work to secure a dynamic mechanism that links the transitional stage with the final stage." [passage omitted]

He added: "So far it seems that the Israeli delegation is dealing seriously with the issues of the present round of negotiations. And we expect the United States to continue its positive and constructive approach in order to push this round toward its sought goals—that is, transferring authority to Palestinian self-government."

Abu-Sharif went on: "We are looking forward to tangible results from this round, despite our prior knowledge that the negotiation process will not be easy, especially in view of the Israeli Government's continuation of its bloody terrorist campaigns against our people in the occupied territories."

Asked about the possibility of the resumption of contacts between the PLO and the U.S. Administration, the Palestinian official said that "relations between the United States and the PLO are bound to resume soon, because there is no logical reason for continuing to freeze these relations. The contacts made last month to hold the ninth round of negotiations are actually direct contacts between the PLO and the U.S. Administration. All that remains is the right moment to announce it officially."

Abu-Sharif expects the Arab states to resume their financial support for the PLO, because economic conditions have become very difficult and in some areas have almost reached the point of starvation. He expressed his optimism that the Arab atmosphere will soon improve in the direction of correcting Arab-Arab relations on the basis of a solidarity that serves the interests of our nation under international conditions which are becoming more complex and the new dangers threatening our nation.

### Fatah Envoy in Cairo Says Israel Undermining Peace

*NC0605105593 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Cairo, 6 May (MENA)—Fatah Movement representative in Cairo Zuhdi al-Qidrah has described Israel's mounting repression against the occupied territories' Palestinian citizens as an attempt to abort the positive atmosphere surrounding Washington's bilateral negotiations and to undermine efforts to advance the peace process.

In a statement to MENA, he said the Israeli measures require the peace conference's two sponsors to force Israel to apply the Fourth Geneva Convention and UN resolutions on the occupied Palestinian territories and to quickly provide international protection for Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

The Israeli forces killed seven Palestinians and wounded 100 in confrontations in the occupied territories in the past two days.

### Intifadah Leaflet Calls For Closure of Territories

*TA0505121493 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 5 May 93 p 2*

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah has called on local residents to seal off the territories to Israelis and Jewish settlers in retaliation for the closure imposed by Israel. The Unified National Leadership also rejected Israel's proposal for "administrative self-government," and appealed to the Palestinians to show national unity "in order to offset this danger." These statements were included in leaflet no. 95 published by the Unified National Leadership.

### PLO Plans Economic Development Council in Territories

*TA0505160393 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 5 May 93 pp 1, 13*

[By Muhammad Dalbah]

[Excerpt] Washington—Senior Palestinian sources have said that efforts are currently under way to set up an "economic development council" in the occupied territories. The council's task would be to forward studies about projects required in the occupied territories during the transitional stage aimed at creating an infrastructure and setting up productive economic ventures.

The council, which will be formed by the PLO in cooperation with the Palestinian team to the Arab-Israeli peace talks as well as economic experts from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, will serve as the official Palestinian organization inside the occupied territories with whom the World Bank, the IMF, other international financial institutions, and regional and international economic groups will deal. This organization will be dealt with, in terms of loans and aid, as any member state in international financial institutions.

Those sources, who participated in the contacts over this matter, told our correspondent in Washington that the United States, the EC, Japan, and Israel have given their agreement to the establishment of this council and have conveyed that to the World Bank and the IMF. [passage omitted]

## Abu Nidal Group Blasts Iraq's Tariq 'Aziz

*PM0605083793 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 May 93 p 3*

[Unattributed report: "Fatah-Revolutionary Council Attacks Tariq 'Aziz and Fires Its Official Spokesman"]

[Text] Amman, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Fatah-the Revolutionary Council (the general command of al-'Asifah forces) has attacked Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz and charged that he represents a crusade mentality.

In a statement issued yesterday, it said that its Central Committee decided on 1 May to dismiss its Official Spokesman Sami Abu-al-Haytham.

The movement said it was issuing this statement because of a report carried by AFP on 20 April 1993 and broadcast by Zionist enemy radio and French radios about a statement issued by 'Abd-al-Karim al-Banna from Baghdad running contrary to our movement's political line and claiming leadership of a secession from our movement in favor of revolutionary forces for liberation. The statement then gave details of the dialogues the movement had with Iraqi officials regarding the secession led by 'Abd-al-Karim al-Banna but it strongly attacked Tariq 'Aziz, describing him as one of the symbols of the crusader mentality linked to the world crusade movement which has been infiltrating many movements since the beginning of this century. The movement accused 'Aziz of standing in the way between it and the Iraqi officials and ruling party.

## DFLP Statement Cited on Saddam-Hawatimah Meeting

*JN0505133893 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has said that a delegation led by its Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah held extensive and profound talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in Baghdad yesterday [as heard]. The talks dealt with the situation in the occupied territories, the current peace negotiations in Washington, the situation in the region, and the blockades imposed on Libya and Iraq. The two sides agreed on the need to halt the multilateral and bilateral talks, on establishing national unity within the framework of the PLO based on common denominators, and on adopting an intra-Arab policy that stresses solidarity and stays clear of regional polarization.

According to the DFLP statement, the Iraqi and Palestinian sides also agreed that the Madrid-Washington formula will not lead to a comprehensive and balanced peace in the Middle East, and that the negotiations, under the current terms—the terms of Shamir, Rabin, and the U.S. Administration—have caused splits among the ranks of the Palestinian people, the intifadah, and the PLO, and further splits among Arab ranks.

## Algeria

### Boumedienne Airport Bombing Trial Opened, Postponed

*LD0505163093 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 May 93*

[Excerpts] The Algiers special judicial court today opened the trial of those who carried out the operation of blowing up Houari Boumedienne Airport on 16 August 1992. [passage omitted] The trial of the main defendant, Hocine Abderrahim, and his group, which comprises more than 50 defendants, including 26 who are still to be captured, will reveal new facts, according to some press sources, on who was behind the criminal deed. The same sources expect the trial to last several days. [passage omitted]

The Algiers special judicial court has, however, postponed the hearing until tomorrow becasue of the absence of more than three quarters of the defense lawyers.

### Four Fundamentalists Killed in Clash With Police

*LD0505140293 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Clashes between security forces and armed [Islamic] fundamentalists, in which heavy weapons were used, are reported to have lasted 16 hours yesterday at the Chateau du Colon, situated in the eastern suburb of Algiers. Apparently, the fundamentalists had taken refuge in a farm which was eventually stormed by some 200 soldiers. Four fundamentalists were reportedly killed and a fifth member is said to have managed to escape. The final toll has not been made public yet.

### Msila Province Police Arrest 12 'Terrorists'

*LD0505165693 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The security services of Msila Province reported that 12 members of a terrorist group belonging to the so-called al-Hijrah and al-Takfir had recently been captured. The terrorists include an official of the province and a student. Members of this group are accused of forming a terrorist group, arson, robbery, and of defiling places of worship.

The group, which is led by Aris Said, aged 32 years, and Toumi Mohamed, aged 30 years, admitted stealing books from more than 12 mosques in the Msila and Algiers provinces, defiling a tomb at Sidi Boudjemline in Msila, and stealing construction materials, motorcycles, and loudspeakers. The terrorist group was in possession of bottles containing combustible material taken from institutes and private companies in Msila.

After appearing before the Msila court, 12 persons were detained. Two were released because the charge could not be proved.

The police services in Msila Province also announced that recently four terrorists were arrested under the charge of forming a criminal gang.

## Egypt

### Foreign Minister Comments on Peace Talks, Terrorism

*NC0505142093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 5 May (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa expects some, rather than complete, progress to be made this year along the path to a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. He stressed that the ninth round of peace talks must make this progress, noting that any lack of progress would set back the peace talks severely and disappoint the public because the peace process would lose its credibility.

Musa affirmed that President Bill Clinton's administration is no less enthusiastic about the peace process than its predecessor. He pointed out that events have proven that Clinton's administration does not lack support for the peace process. This is particularly true because U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's first tour was in the Middle East and the first efforts he made were within the framework of the peace process, Musa said. He added that Christopher's reiteration of the U.S. preparedness to play the role of the full partner in this process and the inclusion of Faysal al- Husayni, a resident of Jerusalem, in the Palestinian delegation reflect positive progress in the negotiations' basic procedures.

Musa was speaking to the weekly magazine AL-SHURUQ, which will come out in al-Sahriqah tomorrow.

Responding to a question about the Israeli Government preparing the Israeli public for a unilateral settlement with Syria, Musa stressed that this settlement is the Israeli Government's task. He emphasized that a settlement with the Palestinians should be the primary goal. The Israeli Government disagrees with this, he said. Negotiations along these two tracks should proceed simultaneously and in parallel. Any progress along the Syrian track will ultimately benefit the entire Arab world. Musa remarked, however, that we have to admit that the Palestinian track is the most important one in the peace process and that the Middle East problem cannot be fully and justly resolved unless the Palestinian problem is settled.

The foreign minister affirmed that there is no such thing as an isolated solution, because every solution is a step on the right road. After all, Musa explained, the crisis is that of the Middle East, and the Palestinian problem is its essence—not the opposite. He added: We do not blame Syria for its vigorous attempts to end the Israeli occupation of its lands. But in the meantime, we urge the Palestinians to hurry up and make parallel progress to reciprocate that being made along the Syrian-Israeli track. Musa remarked that the matter is complicated and that no agreement will be reached overnight that leaves the Palestinians vulnerable.

Answering a question about the faltering Damascus Declaration and recent efforts to revive it, the foreign minister said: If the declaration has faltered at times, it is our duty to fix it rather than kill it. Noting that there is a favorable opportunity at present to revive the declaration, Musa pointed out that President Mubarak's recent visit to Saudi Arabia was part of the diplomatic efforts of the declaration signatories. He noted that the signatories' finance and economy ministers will meet on 18 May and that the foreign ministers will meet next month.

Musa was asked about efforts to revive the Damascus Declaration and curb Iran's attempts to control the region. He said: Let Iran do whatever it wants. Iran's occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] must end, and the declaration opposes that occupation outright, Musa said. He added: We are determined to protect the sovereignty of the Gulf as part of the Arab homeland. The Arab world will not tolerate any infringement on full Arab sovereignty over Arab territories, islands, and lands alike.

Commenting on the terrorism problem, the foreign minister explained that politicized Islam has existed in Egypt for ages and that such trends have emerged more than once and been contained, both in the 1940's and during Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir's time. He emphasized that the Egyptian people do not accept politicized Islam and have never given in to it or viewed it as an Islamic practice. He explained that Islam approves of expressing different opinions. In the final analysis, we are all Muslims, but it is totally unacceptable for a given trend to cross the dividing line between free thinking and convincing dialogue and to adopt a criminal approach to terrorize the peaceful people and tarnish Islam itself, he said, adding: The government should deal very firmly and seriously with such an approach.

Musa added that terrorism targets Arab communities and uses Islam to harm these communities. In Egypt's case, there is foreign involvement in the recent terrorist operations, and we will respond to it, he affirmed. As for local trends, and regardless of their justifications, national responsibility constitutes the framework through which such criminal acts should be tackled, he said.

Musa added: If there are certain schemes to interfere in the affairs of Arab and Muslim states, overthrow their regimes, or influence their people, the response will be swift and decisive.

The foreign minister affirmed that there is international terrorism and that we must open our eyes and realize what is happening in London and other European, African, and Latin American capitals. He stressed the need for international cooperation to fight this international phenomenon and eliminate it.

Responding to a question about recent Sudanese claims of Egyptian involvement in Sudan, Musa said: This is nonsense.

### German Foreign Minister Arrives on Official Visit

*NC0505171193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1616 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Cairo, 5 May (MENA)—German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel and his accompanying delegation arrived in Cairo from Damascus this evening on a one-day visit, during which he will hold talks with Egyptian officials on a number of current Arab and international issues.

The German minister was received at Cairo airport by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, Egyptian Ambassador to Germany Ra'uf Ghunaym, and German Ambassador in Cairo Heinz Fiedler.

### Meets With Arab League Chief

*NC0505181193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1727 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Cairo, 5 May (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid met this evening with German Foreign Minister Dr. Klaus Kinkel, who arrived in Cairo earlier today.

They reviewed Arab-German relations and the latest developments in the Middle East peace process.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said after the meeting that Arab-German relations and ways to promote them were discussed. He said the discussions also dealt with the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and ways to activate Arab-European dialogue.

### Talks Open

*NC0505192293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1812 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Cairo, 5 May (MENA)—Egyptian-German talks opened here this evening, with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa leading the Egyptian side and Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel leading the German side.

The talks deal with the latest developments in the Middle East, efforts to advance the peace process and Germany's contribution to these efforts, the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and ways to promote relations between Egypt and Germany in all fields.

The talks were attended by German Ambassador in Cairo Heinz Fiedler and Egyptian Ambassador in Bonn Ra'uf Ghunaym.

### Meets With Musa

*LD0505195993 Hamburg DPA in German 1840 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Cairo (DPA)—In the view of Federal Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, the "pressure and sanctions" on the Serbs must continue to be exerted even after the signing of the Vance-Owen peace plan for Bosnia-Herzegovina. After a talk with his Egyptian counterpart 'Amr Musa today, Kinkel insisted that it must "now be demonstrated that there will be a cease-fire, peace talks, and a final halt to the murder, killing, raping, and destruction." He was in agreement on this with the Egyptian side.

Kinkel said the main focus of his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Bonn tomorrow (Thursday) will be the lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia as well as possible air attacks on Serbian supply lines. He declined to comment on Germany's position, saying that at the previous stations of his [Christopher's] European trip, his discussion partners have clearly exercised restraint on these matters. Kinkel stressed once again that "due to the historical situation in World War II," German soldiers will not take part in military intervention in Bosnia-Herzegovina by the UN, "even if we were able to do so constitutionally."

As well as the Yugoslav conflict, Kinkel's discussions with Musa included in particular the Middle East peace process, the situation in the Persian Gulf, and the situation in the former Soviet Union. At the same time, according to delegation circles, he thanked Musa for Egypt's support for Germany's admission to the UN Security Council as a permanent member.

Previously, Kinkel had also met with Arab League Secretary General Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid. Before returning to Bonn on Thursday, he also wants to talk with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

### Comments on Bosnia, Mideast Peace

*NC0505210193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Cairo, 5 May (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has said that he discussed with German counterpart Klaus Kinkel today the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It was agreed to continue contacts between the two sides, he said.

The foreign minister noted in this respect the scheduled meeting in Bonn tomorrow between German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to work out a common plan on the next moves to resolve the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Asked whether there is a fixed timetable to implement the peace agreement on Bosnia, Musa said Egypt believes the signing of the peace plan is not enough. Assurances must be provided to make sure there will be no trick to obstruct current international measures against the aggression, because it would be difficult to resume or activate them after that.

Musa stressed the importance of maintaining sanctions against the Serbs, actively supervising the cease-fire, collecting and confiscating large-caliber weapons, and keeping UN forces on the border between Serbia and Bosnia.

Musa said the Serbian leadership should clearly announce that it will not proceed with its "Greater Serbia" plan. He called for the repatriation and compensation of Bosnian refugees and for trying those responsible for ethnic cleansing.

Musa said the German minister proposes the revival of the international peace conference in London without the attendance of the parties to the conflict. This would allow the world community to make a decision on implementing and following up on the peace agreement.

Musa said the Security Council is currently holding talks on how to implement the Vance-Owen peace agreement, which the three parties have now accepted, to ensure that it will be implemented and that no party will violate it.

On the bilateral Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington, the foreign minister stressed that there is some progress. He noted the decision to extend the talks for one more week. There are indications that the ninth round can be a fruitful one, he said.

Musa said that any progress on any of the negotiation tracks would serve the other tracks.

For his part, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel praised Egyptian-German ties.

He said his talks with Musa focused on the situation in the Middle East, the Gulf, and former Yugoslavia; the developments in Europe and the CIS; and the Maastricht Treaty on European unity.

On the situation in Bosnia, Kinkel said the time has come for making effective moves, not just signing agreements. He said no more time should be wasted, calling for an end to the Serbian violations and aggressive acts and urging the Serbs to demonstrate a sincere desire to solve the problem.

The German foreign minister said the Americans and Germans will exchange views tomorrow on two points: Partial lifting of the ban on arms exports to Bosnia, and carrying out an air strike against Serbian supply lines.

During a news conference before leaving Damascus this afternoon, Kinkel said he sensed during his meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad Syria's sincere desire to continue the peace process. He stressed that Syria is eager for peace and is pinning great hopes on it. He said his country is willing to establish balanced relations with the states of the region, especially Syria.

### Reacts to Bosnian Serbs' Vote

*AU0605075393 Cologne Deutschlandfunk Network in German 0445 GMT 6 May 93*

[Telephone interview with German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, in Cairo, by Karin Beindorff—live]

[Text] [Beindorff] Mr. Kinkel, do you see any movement in the talks between Syria and Israel, or are the standpoints still too different?

[Kinkel] Well, yesterday and the day before in Syria and here in Egypt I was able to talk to the official negotiators. I get the impression that all sides want peace and that minimal progress has certainly been achieved in the talks, which have been going on in Washington since 27 April. I assess the extension of the talks in Washington and the reception by President Clinton in a cautiously positive way. There has rather been progress in the talks between Israel and the Palestinians, as you said. Probably not yet any progress, but perhaps a certain degree of rapprochement of the positions in the talks between Syria and Israel. These two rounds of talks are the key rounds, so to speak.

[Beindorff] What could such a rapprochement between Syria and Israel be like?

[Kinkel] Well, the mutual demands are clear. The Syrians want complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan heights and offer peace. If they withdraw from the Golan Heights, which are extremely important for them for security reasons, the Israelis want not only that it be absolutely clear that there will be peace but also that there be official diplomatic relations with the exchange of ambassadors, etc. There are still problems in this respect.

[Beindorff] Mr. Kinkel, you said that you see an agreement between the Israelis and Palestinians drawing close. The Palestinians are calling for self-administration in the occupied territories, powers of legislation, elections, and the linking of the final solution to the self-administration envisaged for a transition period. Should these rights be granted, in your view?

[Kinkel] Well, what should be and could be granted has largely been set down in UN Security Council resolutions. At this specific moment in the process I do not want to make any comments on the substance of the issue, in particular since this afternoon I will have the opportunity to talk to Secretary of State Christopher and to discuss not only the situation in the former Yugoslavia but also the state of the peace talks from the U.S. point of view.

In any case, summarizing the matter, I would like to say that I have gained the impression—and this seems important to me—that everyone wants peace. They are probably tired after the long, long conflicts, and one should go through the door that is currently open. The negotiations have gained—I put it cautiously—a bit more momentum. At least that is the impression I got.

[Beindorff] Mr. Kinkel, we have to change the subject. You have already mentioned U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to Bonn this afternoon and the topic of the Bosnian conflict. What was your reaction when you heard this morning that the self-styled Serbian parliament in Bosnia has rejected the Vance-Owen plan?

[Kinkel] Of course, here I depend on the news I can get here Cairo local time. According to this news, it seems to be the case that they indeed rejected the plan. From the very start I was skeptical about Karadzic's signature, and my skepticism proved right. By the way, we all agreed that, regardless of whether or not this self-styled Serbian parliament agrees, the measures—from the embargo to all the considerations regarding Christopher's trip—would not be stopped, that Christopher's trip and his coordination talks should continue, and that everything possible must be done to further tighten and implement the embargo measures and to continue all other methods of exerting pressure on the Serbs.

I suppose this will be the result of Christopher's talk with the chancellor and myself at midday today. In this respect, it turned out to be right that Christopher did not cancel his trip after the signature was given in Athens and that there was no precipitate euphoria, either. On the basis of all the recent experience I would say even now that this parliamentary vote need not be completely final. Nevertheless, it is, of course, disastrous that the ladies and gentlemen sitting there have obviously not realized what is happening and how urgently agreement was expected by the world public and the international community.

[Beindorff] Mr. Kinkel, these 51 deputies obviously demand a referendum among the Serbs in Bosnia, which is to take place on 15 and 16 May. Do you think one has to wait for the outcome of this referendum or has the point now come where a military intervention is drawing close?

[Kinkel] Well, first of all, we have been led by the nose for months now. We are always put off from one date to the next and, so to speak, from one responsible body to the next. Now we should not let ourselves be influenced by that at all anymore. That is one side. The other is that all parties involved know—and this is the result of Christopher's talks so far, his talks in Russia, Britain, France, etc.—that a military intervention would be a very decisive step toward escalation, which could probably not be undone. Therefore, there is justified caution in this respect, also because of the warnings by the military.

For us Germans, it still holds true: restraint in advice, restraint regarding our participation in talks where preparations for such matters are discussed, but, of course, we are strongly interested. We still have our constitutional brake and we still have the position adopted by the Federal Government: no intervention by German soldiers in former Yugoslavia because of events during World War II.

[Beindorff] Does that mean that you want to wait for the outcome of such a referendum?

[Kinkel] Of course, we will wait to see what is going to happen, but not with a view to what should be done now. In this respect I am strictly against waiting, simply because—I repeat—we are constantly being led by the nose and we should not be influenced by this constant postponing and shifting from one side to the other, but stick to what the Americans, the Europeans, and the other parties involved consider necessary.

### Meets With Mubarak, Departs

*NC0605092993 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel left Cairo this morning at the end of a one-day visit to Egypt during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak. He also held talks with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa focusing on the Middle East, the Gulf, and Bosnia-Herzegovina and on bilateral relations.

Following his meeting with President Mubarak, the German foreign minister said the talks were fruitful and interesting and dealt with the peace process, the situation in the Gulf and Iraq, and Egyptian-German relations.

## Mauritania

### Government Recognizes Republic of Eritrea

*LD0505214993 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 2030 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation issued a statement today in which it declared our country's recognition of the Republic of Eritrea. This is the text of the statement:

The government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, in its endeavor to cement relations of brotherhood, friendship, and cooperation, and in appreciation of the heroic struggle waged by the Eritrean people and its right to self-determination, has decided to officially recognize the young Republic of Eritrea from today, 5 May 1993.

## Sudan

### Complaint May Be Lodged Over Egyptian 'Interference'

*NC0505124493 Paris AFP in English 1207 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Khartoum, May 5 (AFP)—Sudan's government is considering lodging a complaint against Egypt for allegedly helping the Sudanese opposition abroad, the transitional National Assembly stated Wednesday.

The parliament denounced in its statement what it described as interference by the Egyptian Government in Sudan's internal affairs and "attempting to destabilize the Sudan and impose guardianship over its people by supporting the subversive plot that was planned to invade the Sudan as was revealed by the investigations and judicial confessions by elements of the conspiracy."

The junta recently claimed to have unveiled an Egyptian-backed plan by exiled opposition leaders and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) to invade and seize power.

Nine people have been arrested and accused of planning to carry out bomb attacks and assassinations in Khartoum as "a prelude to the invasion."

The interior minister, Brigadier 'Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn, has said the accused would soon be given "a fair and open trial."

The assembly said it regards the harbouring and support by the Egyptian government of the Sudanese opposition as "an interference breaching international relations norms as well as the principles of good-neighbour relations and ties of brotherhood."

"All this makes the Sudan reserve its right to complain against Egypt," the statement said without indicating where the protest would be lodged.

It added that the complaint would be made after the end of the trials it said would be held in the near future.

A state-owned weekly, AL MASIRAH, on Monday reported that an Egyptian national identified only by the initials A.G. had been arrested and charged with involvement in the plot.

This arrest has not yet been confirmed officially.

Relations between Egypt and Sudan have deteriorated since a Muslim fundamentalist-backed coup by the military overturned the democratically elected government of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi in June 1989.

A border dispute is also festering between the two countries.

Negotiations were under way Wednesday in Abuja, Nigeria, between the regime and the SPLA, which has been fighting for a decade for a secular Sudan on behalf of southerners who are largely non-Muslim.

### Opposition Leader: Coup To Be Launched 'Very Soon'

*NC0605095093 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 3 May 93 p 14-15*

[Interview with Brigadier General 'Abd-al-'Aziz Khalid, member of the Legitimate Command of the Sudanese Armed Forces, by Hamdi Rizq in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Rizq] Has the Legitimate Command activated its forces inside Sudan to stage a coup against the Sudanese regime?

['Abd-al-'Aziz] In principle, we are working to bring this regime down by force, because what is stolen by force can only be restored by force. We have carried out operations inside Sudan, most prominent among which was in August 1992 by a small group of officers from the Legitimate Command. It almost toppled 'Umar al-Bashir, but inadequate final touches prevented the objective being achieved. [passage omitted]

[Rizq] Why is al-Bashir trying to involve Egypt in this unreal scenario?

['Abd-al-'Aziz] I think this is some sort of escalation of the dispute between Egypt and Sudan over the border areas and it crowns the Sudanese media's daily campaigns against Egypt. The Sudanese regime seeks to create hostility for Egypt among the Sudanese. But this will never happen. Evidence comes in reports about the so-called invasion, which claimed that Egypt sent in a warship and gun silencers. This claim prompts us to ask: If I want to invade Khartoum, as they claim, and occupy it, why the silencers, especially as the invasion would be public and declared?

[Rizq] What are the plans of the National Democratic Grouping [NDG] and the Legitimate Command, which you represent, when it comes to the al-Bashir regime?

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Our objective is to bring this regime down by force; this will be done very soon. We have been working for three years. The preparations are almost over, the plans exist and are being updated, and our elements are operating well inside the country. We have training camps, not in Lebanon as the regime claimed, but on Sudanese territory in the area of "Equatorial Sharq." This territory belongs to John Garang, but the camp is under our control. Dozens of officers and soldiers dismissed from the Army or escaping arrive at this camp daily in preparation for the inevitable day.

[Rizq] And the weapons?

['Abd-al-'Aziz] We have enough weapons and equipment. I need no support from outside except that of human rights organizations to observe what is happening in the Sudanese ghost houses [reference to Sudanese jails]. This regime will be toppled from within the country and with 100 percent Sudanese hands. This is a fundamental principle of our movement.

[Rizq] What do you expect al-Bashir's coup counter plans to be?

['Abd-al-'Aziz] According to our information, Iranian, Sudanese, and Palestinian elements have transferred funds from Sudan to Cairo through an Islamic bank. We fear that these funds will be used for liquidation plans against us here in Egypt. So far this is only a possibility. As for the transferred funds, we have the bank's name, which has a branch in Cairo and another in Khartoum.

[Rizq] Where are you getting the funds to finance your coup plans?

['Abd-al-'Aziz] The NDG has the funds and weapons. There is cooperation between us. As I said, the coup against the regime will be carried out from within the country. Our experience in the coups against 'Abbud in 1964 and Numayri in 1985 is enough for us to stage the third coup, which we hope will be soon.

## Seven Commanders Split From Garang's SPLA

*AB0605084093 Paris AFP in English 2035 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Nairobi, May 5 (AFP) - Seven Sudanese rebel commanders announced Wednesday that they had split from one of two main factions of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

The southern rebel movement fighting Islamic domination by the north but plagued by internal divisions for two years was a "fraud," said Alfred Ladu-Gore, one of the seven commanders.

"Unity within the SPLA is as elusive as ever," he told a news conference in Nairobi.

It was unclear how much of a challenge the desertions of the seven would pose to Riak Machar, leader of the breakaway SPLA faction they were serving with.

Lam Akol, a spokesman for the Machar faction in Nairobi said the seven were "nonentities" who had not served long.

Ladu-Gore, however, said they would "restructure the SPLA" and heal tribal divisions. He complained that some leaders of Machar's faction had recently met government representatives without consulting fellow commanders.

He named the other six commanders as Barri Wanji, Richard Mulla, Phillip Tongun, Charles Acire, David Idilla and Jenon Odiya.

Aid workers meanwhile expressed fears that food supplies to about 20,000 people in the famine-stricken Kongor area would be disrupted if Machar's forces launched an expected offensive to recapture the southern town of Kongor.

Machar, who broke with Garang in 1991, lost Kongor to fighters loyal to SPLA founder John Garang in March.

Fighting between Garang's faction and Riak's group is disrupting relief supplies to an estimated 700,000 southerners who risk starvation after a decade of civil war, the United States ambassador to Sudan Donald Petterson said last week.

He accused the guerrilla leaders of "a callous disregard" for the lives of their people.

## SPLA-United Said 'Not So United'

*AB0505225093 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 5 May 93*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army]-United is not so united. It was formed just a few weeks ago from factions opposed to John Garang's SPLA. It included the Riak Machar Nasir group, General Nyoun's faction, and a number of former detainees who'd been held by Garang. But already, there has been a splintering. A group, including a number of military commanders, has broken away and is talking contemptuously of SPLA-United. One of the defectors is Professor Wanji. On the line to Nairobi, Robin White asked him what made them quit:

[Begin recording] [Wanji] These gentlemen are not serious. They lack integrity, because some of us really, you work for disunity, we are very serious about it. And our aim was first to unite the opposition and from there, in fact, approach the Garang faction so that the SPLA could once again become one united force.

[White] What makes you say that they weren't serious?

[Wanji] They are not serious because we came out with these basic principles, and the idea was really to reform the movement—inject democracy, stop the abuse of human rights, and reorganize the SPLA as a fighting force. But to our surprise, no sooner had we conciliated the unity, [but] the Nasir faction, in fact, violated almost every principle and proceeded to reaffirm their ties and secret dealings with Khartoum.

[White] So, what are you going to do now?

[Wanji] Well, we, six top senior commanders, have now resigned; also some of our people—our civilian politicians—have also resigned. And we are making a general call to all patriotic southerners that our motherland of southern Sudan is at the brink of defeat. So, there is only one way out, mainly that all the patriotic elements should come together and form an alternative force and political weight so as to reverse the situation.

[White] So, you are going to form yet another organization?

[Wanji] It is going to be an organization with a difference. It will be an organization based on sound principles, on seriousness, well-elaborated program, and, above all, to insist that the southern Sudan must be allowed to exercise, as an objective, its principle of self-determination, which it has always called for since 1956.

[White] Don't you think that by doing this, you are just going to cause more damage to the South?

[Wanji] I don't think so. Well, if rescuing the South from imminent defeat is the danger, then I would not regret that.

[White] Is there any chance you could go back and join John Garang?

[Wanji] No way, because what is happening in Abjua II, Robin, is another betrayal of our people. Garang is a very intelligent man; that we admit, but one is really shocked why Garang should have taken leave of his senses to go and sit with a national Islamic government who will not compromise on the principle of self-determination, who will not compromise on the principle of basic human rights, and who will not recognize the independence of the African peoples in the Sudan.

[White] So, you are against any dialogue with the Khartoum government under any circumstances?

[Wanji] I am not against any dialogue. For example, if a secular democratic government came up in Khartoum as the new regime, we would have no objective to talk to them, Robin.

[White] But, you will not talk to this current government under any circumstances?

[Wanji] From two points of view. First of all, and this was what we advised Nasir, that you cannot talk about peace talks when you are not fighting. You can only have peace talks when you have a solid army on the ground. Nasir has no solid army on the ground, yet it is first to tell us that it wants peace talks with Khartoum. In the case of Garang, Garang knows very well that by messing the movement and by sensing that he is losing the war, he has only one way of getting out of this mess—to go and negotiate a federation that, in fact, will be applied in a state that is Islamic in nature. It can't work.

## SPLM/SPLA Reiterate Opposition to Shari'ah Law

*AB0505153293 Dakar PANA in English 1409 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Abuja, 5 May (NAN/PANA)—The Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM) and the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army (SPLA), have again restated their opposition to the shari'ah law introduced a few years ago in the Sudan.

A spokesman of the two groups, Dr. Ju Arop, told reporters on Wednesday after the morning session of the on-going peace talks in Abuja, that the application of Islamic cardinal principles of criminal law (hudud) exclusively to Muslims and the exemption of non-Muslims from it would constitute an aberration in law.

According to Arop, the application of shari'ah on territorial basis will subject non-Muslims to laws derived from the tenets of a religion they do not profess and which by itself, will be a travesty of the worst kind imaginable.

On the position of the SPLM/SPLA about shari'ah, the spokesman contended that it should have no place whatsoever in the political life of the society, pointing out that it should be restricted entirely to matters of personal law.

This, he continued, would allow for the Muslims to resolve their disputes in areas of marriage, inheritance, co-habitation, divorce, affiliation, paternity and similar provisions that could affect family stability in accordance with the shari'ah if they so wished. He said that the general preoccupation with the punitive aspects of the shari'ah or the hudud had obscured the politically more significant fact that shari'ah was not only the hudud, but an entire legal system in its own right. He said that like any other legal system, the shari'ah spanned a whole range of laws in both the spheres of public as well as private law.

Arop argued that since September 1983, there had existed on the Sudanese legal landscape a shari'ah law of commercial transaction, in addition to the hudud and several other laws governing different facets of life. He argued that in any decentralised political set up, the central institution of government that would include Muslims as well as non-Muslims must not be founded, organised and run in accordance with the laws of Islam, there-by rendering the non- Muslims as second class citizens. He warned that if the shari'ah remained in force, it was imperative to implement the SPLM/SPLA suggested confederal system during the interim period, where shari'ah laws could be applied in the co-federal state that wished to do so.

## Kuwait

### Red Cross Official Comments on Missing Family in Iraq

*LD0505165393 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1225 GMT 5 May 93*

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 5 May (KUNA)—An official at the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] said today that the six missing Kuwaitis are currently in Iraq and that contacts are being made with the Iraqi authorities to talk with them.

The official, Arnold Leotold [name as received], who is the committee's regional commissioner for the Arabian Peninsula, pointed out in a news conference here that the Iraqi authorities have informed the committee's regional office in Baghdad of the presence of the six Kuwaitis and that contacts are continuing with those authorities.

He said that the committee does not have enough information on the conditions and circumstances of their disappearance, the way they entered Iraqi territory, or the time of their return. He did affirm that the international committee is exerting its utmost efforts through its contacts with the Iraqi and Kuwaiti Governments to deal with this humanitarian issue. [passage omitted]

Arnold emphasized that the IRCC has not issued any information reports on the situation at the Talhah center for those who have been administratively expelled from Kuwait. He said that the committee visits the center and sends reports to the Kuwaiti Government. According to the agreement signed between the committee and the Kuwaiti Government, these reports are confidential.

He denied that the committee was behind reports that the Kuwaiti Government is treating the expelled persons inhumanely.

He said that the committee, together with the Kuwaiti Government, is working toward solving the problem of the administratively expelled, particularly those who refuse to go back to their countries because they are afraid for their lives. He said that the committee is trying to solve the problem of these people even if their countries do not have diplomatic representation with or embassies in Kuwait. [passage omitted]

## Oman

### Diplomatic Relations Established With Mozambique

*JN0505134393 Muscat Radio Oman Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 May 93*

[Excerpt] The Sultanate of Oman and the People's Republic of Mozambique have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level as of Tuesday, 4 May 1993. A joint communique was issued in this regard today, Wednesday. [passage omitted]

## Qatar

### Amir Holds Talks With Visiting Lebanese Prime Minister

*JN0505152493 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1330 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Doha, 5 May (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani, amir of the State of Qatar, met here today with Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri, who is visiting Qatar as part of his tour of a number of countries in the region.

During their meeting, the officials reviewed the current situation in Lebanon, as well as Lebanese efforts to reconstruct the country after restoring security and stability.

They also reviewed a number of regional, Arab, and international issues, the latest developments in the peace process, and bilateral relations.

### Joint Communique Issued

*JN0505152993 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1410 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Doha, 5 May (WAKH)—The State of Qatar and the Republic of Lebanon have agreed to form a joint Qatari-Lebanese committee to back efforts to reconstruct Lebanon, carry out housing projects, and repair government buildings.

A joint Qatari-Lebanese communique, issued in Doha today at the end of Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri's visit, states that the two sides agreed that a Qatari ambassador be sent to the Republic of Lebanon.

The two countries reiterated their support for the Middle East peace process, as well as their total commitment to a unified Arab position calling for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The two countries denounced Israeli aggressions on Lebanese territory, and stressed the need for the international community to press Israel to withdraw from southern Lebanon. They also called for a more active international role to get Israel to comply with Security Council Resolution 799, calling for the immediate repatriation of Palestinian deportees to their homes. They also urged a stronger international position to put an end to Serbian aggression against Bosnia-Herzegovina and to end the Bosnian people's suffering.

The two countries expressed their denunciation of that aggression, as well as their hope to see the international peace plan, recently accepted by the Serbs, take effect on the ground.

## Saudi Arabia

### Foreign Minister Meets With Malaysian Counterpart

*LD0405195293 Riyadh SPA in English 1927 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Riyadh, May 4, SPA—Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal received here on Tuesday visiting Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi to review bilateral relations and exchange views on regional and international issues.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Undersecretary for Political Affairs Abdulrahman Mansuri and the Malaysian Ambassador to the Kingdom Adnan Ben Osman.

Later in the day, Badawi met with Higher Education Minister Dr. Khalid al-'Anqari to discuss bilateral relations in educational and cultural fields.

## United Arab Emirates

### Ethiopian Prime Minister Concludes Visit, Departs

*JN0505153693 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1358 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 May (WAKH)—Ethiopian Prime Minister Tamirat Layne left Abu Dhabi today following a three-day visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE], during which he met with His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, and senior state officials.

The Ethiopian prime minister and his delegation held talks on regional and international issues of mutual concern, as well as bilateral relations and ways of enhancing them in various areas.

## Yemen

### Reform Grouping Threatens To Withdraw Over 'Excesses'

*PM0605085893 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 3 May 93 pp 1, 4*

[Jamal Khasuqji report: "Reform Grouping Threatens To Withdraw Unless Its Contestations Are Accepted"]

[Excerpts] Jeddah—The Yemeni Reform Grouping, which has emerged as a second major force in Yemen after the recent elections, is preparing to take its most serious decision. Its leadership, which will complete its quorum and meet in Sanaa in the next few days, has three options, the most difficult of which is withdrawal from the parliament, which has not yet met, in protest at what the Reform Grouping terms "exceeding the accepted limit of excesses and rigging, especially in the south," thus threatening the first and most important democratic experiment in Yemen. As for the other two options, they are no less difficult. They are: To agree to participate in a government one of whose components—namely the Socialist Party—they do not trust, or to join in the opposition, hence losing a precious opportunity to participate in power, especially with the existence of a bloc of not less than 100 representatives who support them in the parliament.

The leadership of the Reform Grouping, the main Islamic party in Yemen, delayed making any decision pending the outcome of the contestations submitted by it. But "the start is not encouraging," according to 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Anasi, the grouping's secretary general, who told AL-HAYAH over the telephone that the Supreme Court accepted only a limited number of the Reform Grouping's contestations which "you could count on the fingers of one hand."

Al-Anasi—who lost his constituency to the [General] People's Congress candidate, and this is one of the constituencies whose results are contested—said that the Supreme Court rejected the Reform Grouping's contestations on the basis of an interpretation of the law whereby contestations should be submitted within 48 hours "after the announcement of the results of the first constituency." He described its position as "illogical, as how can we contest in a constituency whose results have not been announced on the basis of the timing of the announcement of another constituency's results." Al-Anasi believes that the law says 48 hours from the announcement of the results of the constituency subject to contestation.

He said that most of the contestations submitted by the Reform Grouping are in the south. He did not rule out the possibility of the Reform Grouping's withdrawing from the democratic process. "Because we insisted on the elections and worked for them to achieve three aims: First, to extricate the people and Yemen from the political, economic, and constitutional dilemma they are experiencing. Second, to end partition completely. And finally, to end any form of power sharing between the the two ruling parties. These aims have not been achieved. Instead, partition and power sharing [between the two ruling parties] have been perpetuated." [passage omitted]

Asked about the Reform Grouping's position if the Supreme Court continues to reject its contestations in the south, Al-Anasi said: "We cannot announce anything now. We are waiting until we meet with the other brothers. However, all possibilities are open." [passage omitted]

## Further on Exchange of 'Swiss Version' of 25-Dinar Banknotes

### Troops Deployed on Jordanian Border

*NC0505185593 Paris AFP in English 1845 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Amman, May 5 (AFP)—Iraq late Wednesday deployed troops all along its border with Jordan to prevent the smuggling of Iraqi dinars into the country, Arab diplomats in Jordan said. Two hundred Iraqi troops and 30 officers took up positions on the border to prevent illegal entry of Iraqi dinars into Iraq after Baghdad's decision to withdraw foreign-made banknotes from circulation.

### Bank Hours Announced for Exchanges

*JN0505175393 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The Central Bank of Iraq [CBI] and its branches in al-Basrah and Mosul, as well as the al-Rafidayn and al-Rashid Bank branches operating throughout Iraq, have begun exchanging the 25-dinar banknote bearing the markings H.P. in the numerator to the right of the serial number.

In a statement to an INA correspondent, CBI Governor Tariq Talib al-Takmaji said that the doors of the CBI and its two branches, as well as the doors of the branches of the al-Rafidayn and al-Rashid Banks, will be open in the mornings and evenings to allow for the aforementioned banknotes to be exchanged. He added that in accordance with Revolution Command Council Decree No. 79 dated 4 May, the CBI declares as withdrawn all 25-dinar banknotes bearing the markings H.P. in the numerator to the right of the serial number.

The CBI governor went on to say that those who have any of these bills, printed outside Iraq between 1978 and 1986 and commonly known as the Swiss version, can exchange their money for its equivalent in legally circulated national currency at the CBI in Baghdad and its two branches in al-Basrah and Mosul, and also at all branches of the al-Rafidayn and al-Rashid Banks.

Concluding his statement, al-Takmaji said that this banknote shall be illegal and invalid after 10 May.

It has also been decided to operate the al-Rashid Bank branches in Baghdad and the governorates in the mornings and evenings as of today and until 10 May, including next Friday [7 May]. The director general of the bank told an INA correspondent that the bank branches, which total 143, are fully prepared to meet the citizens' requests with regard to exchanging 25-dinar banknotes printed outside Iraq bearing the markings H.P. He urged citizens who have such bills to report to the bank branches to exchange their money. He indicated that these branches will provide citizens who report to them with the necessary facilities.

## Visiting Sudanese Governor Reports Egyptian 'Conspiracy'

*JN0105162993 Baghdad INA in English 1550 GMT 1 May 93*

[Text] Baghdad, May 1. INA—Mayor of the Sudanese Middle Governorate Staff Brigadier al-'Awad Muhammad al-Hasan disclosed today that the Egyptian regime was behind a "big conspiracy" to topple the national regime in Sudan and replacing it with a regime serving colonialism and Zionism.

Quoted by AL-JUMHURIYAH newspaper, the Sudanese official now visiting Iraq, said the misdeed conspiracy was to assassinate all members of the Sudanese leadership with a direct planning from the Egyptian Government and recruitment of the Egyptian intellegence service to this purpose.

Brigadier al-Hasan pointed out that the Egyptian regime was acting to export its crises instead of solving internal problems.

He added that the concerned establishments in Sudan have managed recently to confiscate a huge quantity of weapons and ammunition on board a ship sent to leader of the rebellion in the south of the country John Garang. He said the weapons and the ammunition were marked by a Saudi title.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian ambassador in Khartoum was summoned and was informed of the Sudanese Government strong protests on the involvement of Egypt in the conspiracy against Sudan.

## Information Minister Confers With Sudanese Counterpart

*JN0505154193 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi met today with Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman, member of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution Command Council and Sudanese minister of culture and information, and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, the Iraqi minister reviewed the jihad and construction work currently under way in the field of information, and in the production and economic sectors as well. Hamid Yusuf Hammadi noted that despite the difficult circumstances it is experiencing, Iraq, under leader President Saddam Husayn, has managed to rebuild what the malicious evildoers destroyed, thanks to the efforts of good Iraqis, who demonstrated exceptional expertise. Moreover, Iraqis, he added, have also managed to thwart the aggressive schemes and plots targeting Iraq.

For his part, the Sudanese minister of culture and information expressed the Sudanese people's solidarity with and support for the Iraqi people. He hailed the courageous jihad demonstrated by the Iraqi people under leader President Saddam Husayn, as manifested in their confrontation of all the plots and conspiracies aiming to undermine their national unity, Iraq's territorial integrity, and its civilization, and to harm the Iraqi people as well.

The Sudanese delegation's visit aims to enhance and bolster bilateral relations in the areas of culture and information, and to nurture their enhancement in the interest of the Arab nation and the two fraternal peoples.

### Ramadan Cited on UN Resolutions, Iran Ties

*JN0505143093 Baghdad INA in English 1315 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Tunis, May 5, INA—Member of the Revolution Command Council and Vice-President Taha Yasin Rmadan has said that the Iraqi people's steadfastness and will are stronger than all challenges.

In a statement published by AL-SHURUQ Tunisian newspaper, Mr. Ramadan stressed that the Iraqi people and leadership would not give up their dignity and sovereignty, whatever the sacrifices would be.

He described the United Nations Security Council resolutions against Iraq as unfair measures imposed by a super power dominating the peoples' capabilities through the Security Council.

Mr Ramadan called on the Iranian rulers to relinquish their greeds, and expressed belief that good relations between Iraq and Iran would serve both countries as well as the Arab nation, the Islamic people and Third World countries.

### Saddam Chairs RCC, Cabinet Meeting 2 May

*JN0205185993 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 May 93*

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him, has chaired a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and the Council of Ministers. Today's session reviewed the unique administrative practices that the leader president recommended in order to strengthen the organic tie between officials and the people and to move senior administrative officials from offices to the field.

The conferees highly evaluated the experience of the higher state leadership to return to the roots and the source by supervising the development process in subdistricts through the RCC vice chairman, the vice president, the RCC members, the ministers, and those holding the rank of minister.

The joint meeting also studied the causes and phenomena pertaining to the dinar's exchange rate in Iraq against foreign currency. A study of the specialized ministerial committee was presented to the meeting, and appropriate instructions were issued to turn that study into bounding arrangements. These measures will inevitably lead to an increase in the dinar's exchange rate.

The Council of Ministers then held an extraordinary session this evening to put the new measures into effect. At the beginning of the session, Prime Minister Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi expressed, in his name and on behalf of the ministers, their happiness to be honored by a meeting with the leader president from time to time and by receiving his excellency's valuable instructions to promote the performance of the state organs and the jihad and construction efforts.

The Council of Ministers adopted the necessary recommendations and decisions to put his excellency's instructions into effect.

### Opposition Spokesman 'Very Satisfied' With U.S. Talks

*PM0405132093 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 30 Apr 93 pp1, 4*

[Reports by Hasan Sandarusi in Washington, Kamran Qurah Daghi in London, and Safa' Ha'iri in Paris: "Iraqi Opposition: United States To Study Possibility of Supplying Us With Arms"]

[Excerpts] A delegation of the Iraqi opposition's Unified National Congress [INC] has held a series of talks with senior U.S. Administration officials. INC Spokesman Salah al-Shaykhli said that the delegation was "very satisfied" with the results. He stressed that the Americans "did not say no to any request submitted by the delegation in connection with foreign aid, which might include arms to strengthen the opposition's capabilities in northern Iraq."

A U.S. official has told AL-HAYAH, however, that supplying the Iraqi opposition with arms "is not on Washington's agenda." He ruled out that possibility and also said that it would be difficult to exclude northern Iraq from the international sanctions. [passage omitted]

In a telephone interview with AL-HAYAH in London, delegation member Jalal Talabani said that the United States assured the delegation that "there will be no overt or covert softening of position, no deals, and no negotiations" with the Iraqi regime.

The delegation met yesterday with U.S. Vice President Gore, National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, and Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs Edward Djerejian. [passage omitted]

Al-Shaykhli said that the impression the delegation got from the meeting with Gore was that there would be more U.S. aid for the INC. He added that "the vice president confirmed what we heard from the secretary of state and from Anthony Lake, but the most important thing about the meeting with the vice president was the U.S. recognition of the INC as an alternative to Saddam Husayn's regime.... realize that the vice president does not meet anyone unless there is a strong political signal behind such a meeting. That in itself was fully satisfactory to us. We briefed him on human rights violations and the destruction of the infrastructure in Iraq."

The delegation had discussed its most important requests with the president's national security adviser. Al-Shaykhli told AL-HAYAH: "We are very encouraged by the fact that the United States will not only help us directly but will also do so through the Security Council and will make efforts to urge the region's states to help the Iraqi people and the Iraqi opposition. We did not receive any negative answers to any of our requests. Some will be studied and some will be seriously considered with a view to finding ways [of helping] through consultations with the other Security Council members and states of the region. We have not heard a 'no' to any of our requests." [passage omitted]

He also said that the INC has certain requirements in order to be able to carry out its activities. He defined these requirements as "more protection than is available at present. We want the international community under U.S. leadership to minimize the threat posed by Saddam Husayn. If he interferes in INC affairs or commits aggression against the Kurdish area, the United States should take all necessary measures to guarantee the safety of that area."

He added that the delegation requested assistance for the INC and the Kurdish administration to get hold of some of the frozen Iraqi assets placed at the UN disposal.

On the question of military aid, he emphasized that "the INC requests such aid not for the purpose of using it in a civil war nor even in fighting the Iraq Army.... It would be strictly used for self-defense."

## Turkomen Party Threatens To Quit Opposition Congress

*PM0605091193 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 3 May 93 p 5*

[Unattributed report: "Turkomen National Party of Iraq Hints at Freezing Its Membership of Opposition 'National Congress'"]

[Text] London, AL-HAYAH—The "Turkomen National Party of Iraq" has hinted at freezing its membership of the opposition Iraqi National Congress unless "the congress fulfills the party's legitimate demands and wishes which reflect Turkomen national aspirations in Iraq."

A statement issued by the party and a copy of which AL-HAYAH has obtained said that the party had informed the congress of its wish to participate in the delegation which visited Washington, where it met with high-ranking officials. It pointed out that the party "received no reply with regard to the composition of the delegation. We learned about the developments through the media."

It also stressed that the executive council of the Iraqi opposition did not respond to the party's requests to increase the number of its representatives on the council.

## Two 'High-Level Agents' Reportedly Killed in South

*NC0505171493 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Iraqi opposition revolutionaries in the south have succeeded in killing Jabbar Husayn, deputy security director of al-'Amarah Governorate, and Sami Nasir [not further identified] in al-Kahla' District in two separate operations.

These two men were high-level agents of the regime in the area.

### Opposition Submits No-Confidence Motions on Peace Talks

*TA0505162093 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Next week the Knesset will debate two no-confidence motions against the government. The Likud submitted a no-confidence motion against the background of what it terms the unilateral concessions made by the government in the political negotiations, referring to the issue of withdrawal from the Golan Heights. The National Religious Party and Tzomet submitted a joint no-confidence motion protesting what they call the inept management of the negotiations.

### Rabin Urges Unity as Talks Make Progress

*TA0505172193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said this evening that personal or other considerations must not come before the need to maintain the unity of the coalition in order to allow it to exhaust every opportunity to promote the peace process. Our party affairs correspondent Sheli Yehimovich reports that the prime minister was speaking a short time ago at a Tel Aviv ceremony celebrating the nomination of Avigdor Qahalani as Labor Party candidate for the post of Tel Aviv mayor.

Rabin said that only the current coalition could bring the peace, and therefore all its partners must stop dealing with marginal issues, especially in a week when real progress was made in the peace process.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1600 GMT on 5 May adds the following:

"Next week the Knesset will debate two no-confidence motions against the government. The Likud submitted a no-confidence motion against the background of what it terms the unilateral concessions made by the government in the political negotiations, referring to the issue of withdrawal from the Golan Heights. The National Religious Party and Tzomet submitted a joint no-confidence motion protesting what they call the inept management of the negotiations."]

### Meretz Opposes Changes in Government

*TA0505134293 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The Meretz faction has announced that it adamantly opposes a crisis in the government or harming Minister Aloni's status in it. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that, in its statement, the Meretz faction says that the government's stability is extremely vital in view of the challenges of peace, and the dramatic changes it is making in the economy, education, and social spheres. Therefore, Meretz opposes any changes in the government. The statement was endorsed by all of the Meretz ministers and Knesset members.

### Der'i To Resign if Aloni Not Transferred

*TA0605044593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0400 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] If the prime minister does not announce on Sunday that he accepts SHAS' [Torah Observing Sephardim] demand to transfer Shulamit Aloni from the Education and Culture Ministry, Arye Der'i will present a letter of resignation that same day, and it will take effect two days later. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovich reports that Mr. Rabin will apparently summon the Meretz ministers either today or tomorrow and inform them of the gravity of the crisis with SHAS. He will try to convince them that for the sake of the continuation of the peace process, they must agree to Mrs. Aloni's transfer from her current portfolio. The persuasion efforts will continue during the two days between the announcement of Der'i's resignation and the time it goes into effect.

Der'i told our correspondent Gil Litman last night that he does not believe SHAS' demand will cause a coalition crisis because the political process has reached an advanced stage. Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that in an interview to the SHAS newspaper this morning, Minister Der'i said that nothing terrible will happen if SHAS is not in the coalition. He believes Mr. Rabin will be able to reshuffle his cabinet and then have SHAS rejoin a government in which Mrs. Aloni is not education and culture minister.

### Netanyahu on Campaign To Thwart Concessions

*TA0405170493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu today called for an determined campaign, within the framework of the law, to thwart what he called the government's intentions to forsake national security in northern Israel and other parts of the country.

Netanyahu was speaking during a visit to hunger-striking settlers from the Golan Heights in Jerusalem's Rose Garden opposite the Knesset. Our correspondent Gil Litman notes that the strike has now entered its sixth day, and that ten more people joined the strikers today.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1600 GMT on 4 May in a similar report adds that "Netanyahu said that if Rabin wanted to make territorial concessions on the Golan Heights, he would have to call new elections because he was voted into power on the basis of his promise that Israel would hang on to the Golan Heights."

[A related report on Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1605 GMT on 4 May adds that another group is staging a sit-in strike in Jerusalem "in connection with the political negotiations. This uncharacteristic strike is staged by several SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] members outside the home of party patron Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef." In a recorded passage, a member of the group explains that the strike protests " 'SHAS' cooperation with such an evil government, which is about to return all Eretz Yisra'el territories taken in 1967." The protester adds: "We believe that if all SHAS followers exhibit this kind of support for the rabbi, he will quit the government."]

## Four Wanted Men Killed; 2 Surrender to Security Forces

*TA0405051593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Four men who tried to run down a border policeman in the Gaza Strip last night were shot and killed. No Israelis were hurt. All the men in the vehicle have been identified as being on the wanted list. Details from Alan Ben-'Ami:

It happened close to 9 o'clock last night. According to the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman, a Border Police unit had signaled a local vehicle to pull up at a checkpoint near al-Burayj camp, midway down the Gaza Strip; however, the vehicle did not stop. Instead, the driver tried to run over one of the policemen at the scene. Border policemen opened fire and the four men in the vehicle all died in a hail of bullets.

All four of the men have been identified as being on the wanted list. They are Hani' Mahmud Hasan Mu'ammir, aged 23, and Ahmad Salim Dib, also 23, of al-Shati' refugee camp, both members of the Fatah Hawks who were wanted for a series of gun and grenade attacks on Israeli security forces and for their part in murders of local Palestinians. The other two men have been identified as Ahmad Hamid Salama Abu-Saylah, aged 21 of Khan Yunus, who was a member of Fatah in that area and was wanted for attacks on local residents, and Muhammad Mahmud Muhammad Bahadah, also 21, of al-Shati' refugee camp. He, too, was a member of Fatah and was wanted for involvement in a number of shooting incidents, including the firing on IDF patrols and vehicles and the murder of local Palestinians. Although all four were wanted men, no weapons were found with them last night.

Two other wanted men have turned themselves in to security forces in separate locations in the Gaza Strip. 'Abdallah Mahmad Faraj Abu-Sa'id, a resident of al-Burayj camp, turned himself in yesterday. Abu-Sa'id, aged 20, is a member of Fatah. And on Sunday, Majid Muhammad Asar, aged 22, from al-Nusayrat camp, a Fatah Hawk, surrendered to security forces.

According to one security source, some 60 armed men on the wanted list are still being sought, most of them for murders, others for other violence activities.

## One Dead, 7 Wounded in Clash With IDF in Gaza

*TA0405114493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Ahmad Subuh of the al-Shati' refugee camp was shot dead by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers during stone-throwing incidents. Another seven inhabitants of the al-Shati' and Khan Yunus refugee camps were wounded in the shooting. The four wanted men shot dead by border policeman yesterday lived in these camps. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that a three-day business strike was declared in Gaza town and the Khan Yunus refugee camp to mark their deaths.

An Arab in the village of 'Awarta near Nabulus sustained moderate injuries when soldiers fired at him after stones were thrown at them. His colleague tried to run away but was captured and detained.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1000 GMT on 4 May reports that "an Arab has attacked an Israeli soldier in the Gaza Strip. The soldier was not hurt. The Arab, a detainee at a seaside detention facility in the Gaza Strip, was slightly injured by the soldier's fire and is currently being treated at a nearby clinic."]

## Senior Police Officer Shot Near Rehovot

*TA0605043293 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] A senior Israeli Police officer has been shot and seriously wounded near Rehovot. Around 4 o'clock this morning, the officer—an assistant commander—had parked his car by the road near the Bilu Junction when two men approached him, asking for help. One of them then shot him in the side, and the policeman, who is now undergoing surgery at Rehovot's Kaplan Hospital, said he heard the two men speaking Arabic as they fled. Although wounded, he still managed to chase his attackers, but gave up when he felt himself losing consciousness.

There is a widespread search now in effect in the Rehovot-Ramla area, and the men were last seen heading north.

## Citizen Sentenced for PLO Contacts on Assassinations

*TA0605102993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] The Tel Aviv District Court this morning sentenced a resident of Rishon Leziyyon, Refa'el Avraham, to four years in prison for maintaining contacts with the PLO, which wanted him to assassinate Israeli political figures. He was also given a two-year suspended sentence.

The court found that Refa'el a year ago met with PLO leaders in Tunis, where the assassination plans were laid. Under a plea bargaining arrangement, the prosecution did not press charges of treason. In handing down the sentence, the judges said that Refa'el had not actually carried out the plan and had not harmed state security.

## Missile Warning System Canceled Due to Budget Cuts

*TA3004155993 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 Apr 93 pp A1, 10*

[Report by security affairs correspondent Aluf Ben]

[Text] The Defense Ministry has canceled the development of a simple and effective early warning system against ballistic missiles because of cuts in the development budget of the "Homa" plan, the national antimissile defense system.

The early warning system is based on detecting surface-to-surface missiles at long range with sensors. Groups of industries competed for the development project. A feasibility study conducted for the management of the Homa plan showed that the system would be highly accurate and would cost between $20 and $30 million, a fifth of the price of an early warning ground radar .

After the completion of the feasibility study, the Homa management decided to issue a tender among the military industries for the development of the system. But before the contract could be issued the budget was cut and the project was canceled.

Budgetary problems also led to a freeze in the procurement of an antimissile early warning radar. The Homa plan management, which prepared specifications of the radar needed to defend Israel, continues to study the project and has called on several manufacturers for information on the radar and its possible cost.

Yitzhaq Rabin, prime minister and defense minister, decided several months ago to cut the Homa plan budgets. Previous Defense Minister Moshe Arens gave high priority to defense against surface-to-surface missiles, but Rabin decided that the issue has lower priority.

The national antimissile defense system will, under the plan, include four elements: Arrow antimissile missile batteries, radars for fire control, an early warning system against attacking missiles, and command and control systems. In selecting projects to be cut back on, it was decided to clip the command and control components and to continue the development of the Arrow and the Arrow's fire control radar.

Most of the funding for the development of the Arrow comes from the United States. Defense Ministry Director General David 'Ivri has convinced Rabin that harming the radar's development could be viewed in the United States as an Israeli pullout from the Arrow project. Rabin called on the U.S. Congress to free $54.4 million already approved for the radar, which has been frozen due to Pentagon opposition.

Rabin approved the development budget of the Homa plan within the framework of the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] multiyear plan. The defense establishment believes that in 1996 it will be possible to supply an initial, experimental defense system with limited operational capability. According to this evaluation, the cost of such a system will be about $1 billion, which includes U.S. funding for the Arrow since 1998.

With the absence of an independent early warning system, Israel will continue to depend on U.S. early warning satellites, as was the case during the Gulf war. The United States made a commitment after the war to provide Israel with an early warning each time there is a threat. The early warning system was used prior to the American bombings in Iraq late last year.

There is a dispute in the defense establishment over whether Israel can depend only on a foreign early warning system or should develop an independent capability. Several months ago Israel was promised that it would be incorporated in the Global Positioning System (GPS) initiated by Presidents George Bush and Boris Yeltsin. The initiative promised to provide early warning from superpower satellites to all participating countries. In the meantime, however, it appears that Bill Clinton's administration has frozen the initiative and its future is unclear.

## Rabin Said Deferring Demands on U.S. in Security Sphere

*TA0505134893 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 May 93 p 5*

[Report by defense affairs correspondent Aluf Ben]

[Excerpts] Yitzhaq Rabin, the prime minister and defense minister, has decided not to pose too many demands of the United States in the security sphere. Israeli sources say that Rabin will raise Israel's requests in conjunction to the progress in the peace process, in the framework of the top-level strategic dialogue which the two countries have decided to pursue.

The sources say that "it is a shame to waste political capital on requests that will be easier to put forward in future as compensation for the risks Israel will undertake in the framework of the peace process." Among other things, Rabin has decided to refrain from requesting at present that the United States strengthen Israel's deterrence against surface-to-surface missiles, and that it set up a permanent ground station in Israel for receiving information from U.S. spy satellites.

Israel will make do with the present understanding, according to which the United States will transmit satellite information only when there is a danger of a missile attack against Israel. The issue of strengthening Israel's deterrence could be raised again in the framework of the security guarantees which Israel is to receive during the peace process. [passage omitted]

Sources in the defense establishment assess that the United States will broaden Israel's access to sensitive technology, even if it will not acquiesce to all of Israel's requests. The security sources said yesterday: "It is possible, for example, that we will receive a certain computer program we requested, but not its most advanced version." [passage omitted]

### U.S. Officials Announce Cancellation of VOA Project

*TA0505133693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 3 May 93*

[Text] U.S. President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore have officially informed the Nature Preservation Society of the cancellation of the plan to establish the VOA station in the 'Arava. In their letters, the two state that due to the hazards posed by the project in Israel, and with an eye to lowering the costs of the transmissions, it was decided to scrap the plan and to set up cheaper transmitters in Kuwait. The Nature Preservation Society regards this development as the official end to the VOA transmitter project in the 'Arava.

### Pilgrims Leave for First-Time Visit to Tunisia

*TA0505120493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Some 560 Israelis have left on a pilgrimage to Djerba in Tunisia to celebrate the feast of Rabbi Shim'on Bar-Yohay. Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that the Tunisian prime minister has for the first time allowed Israeli citizens to enter his country. He ordered the authorities to secure their well-being.

### Envoy Brings 'Sharp' Ethiopian Protest Over Alleged Attacks on Jews

*TA0405095593 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 May 93 p 1*

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Excerpt] Ethiopia this week presented a sharp protest to Israel over the depictions in the media and the Knesset of alleged attacks against Jews. Israeli Ambassador to Ethiopia Hayim Divon also reported to the Foreign Ministry that these baseless reports were a "blood libel in reverse."

Ethiopian Ambassador to Israel Gabo Dera [name as published] presented a sharp protest to Moshe Yegar, a deputy director general at the Foreign Ministry, focusing on remarks made by Knesset Member David Levi in the Knesset debate on the issue. The ambassador called Levi's remarks about Ethiopian Jews being killed only because they are Jews, the kidnapping of Jewish women, the burning of Jewish homes, and the existence of thousands of homeless Jews "an insult." The ambassador said that these things "are simply not true." [passage omitted]

### Israeli Staffs Export-Oriented Model Farm in Morocco

*TA0205111493 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 May 93 p C1*

[Report by Hayim Bi'or]

[Excerpts] Israel recently finished setting up a model farm in Morocco with funding from the U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency.

The farm, in which $5 million dollars was invested, is situated on 60 dunams in the Casablanca area. Potatoes, peppers, tomatoes for industry, desert flowers, and saplings and tissue culture are being grown there.

It has been learned that the farm is using Israeli know how from the Volcani Institute and the Hebrew University's Agriculture Faculty to grow export-oriented crops. An Israeli expert is permanently stationed at the farm and instructs the locals employed there.

The Hansen Peace Fund at the University of California San Diego, and the Institute for Applied Research at Ben-Gurion University in the Negev are also involved in the project. [passage omitted]

Among the dozens of delegations arriving today for the Agrotech 1993 exhibition this week in Tel Aviv is a 10-member delegation from Morocco. Another 100-member delegation from Egypt arrives tonight in a special plane. The two delegations will be the guests of Agriculture Minister Ya'aqov Tzur at his kibbutz Wednesday.

## Iraqi Banknote Change Seen as 'Fatal Blow' to Merchants

*JN0505130993 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 May 93*

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Iraq's decision to annul the country's currency printed abroad could deal a fatal blow to Jordanian merchants. Economic sources here are speaking of losses ranging from $40 to $50 million.

Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] Governor Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi has affirmed to our radio that the CBJ is attempting to determine the Iraqi currency assets in Jordan. He added that contacts are under way with the Iraqi authorities to learn the details of the Iraqi decision in the hope that these contacts will produce positive results with regard to Jordan.

Meanwhile, since this morning, hundreds of citizens have been crowding both sides of the Iraqi-Jordanian border in the aftermath of the complete border closure enforced by Baghdad since this morning. The Iraqi authorities have not allowed anybody to cross into Iraqi territory or to leave Iraq.

In Amman, the merchants dealing with Iraqi currency as part of exporting to Iraq received a big shock. Even though Iraq prohibits people from taking Iraqi currency outside the country, most trade transactions have been paid for with Iraqi currency since the eruption of the Gulf crisis. This has been done with the full knowledge of the Baghdad authorities.

In a related development, camps here are witnessing an atmosphere of rage over the Iraqi decision, given that most camp residents are keeping Iraqi currency in hopes that its exchange rate will go up once the embargo is lifted. All Jordanian banks and financial institutions have been instructed to halt their transactions in all denominations and kinds of the Iraqi currency.

## CBJ Bans Entry of Iraqi Notes

*JN0505194193 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] sources said tonight that CBJ Governor Dr. Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi had today instructed airport and border officials to ban the entry of Iraqi banknotes into the Kingdom, irrespective of their denomination. The move is aimed at defining the number of Iraqi banknotes in the Kingdom and to exert every possible effort with appropriate Iraqi authorities to protect Jordanian holders of such banknotes.

## Gulf Speculators Said Hit Hardest

*JN0605073493 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 6-7 May 93 pp 1,2*

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter P.V. Vivekanand]

[Excerpt] Amman—Jordanians may have lost as much as $100 million in hoarded Iraqi currency following the decision Wednesday of the Baghdad government to withdraw pre-1990 Iraqi banknotes of 25-dinar denomination and close the borders for five days to check smuggling, dealers and banking officials said.

However, the most affected by the abrupt cancelation of the banknotes are speculators in the Gulf states, particularly Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) who were believed to have purchased billions of Iraqi dinars in old notes, particularly in 25-dinar bills.

Trading in Iraqi dinars in the Gulf states slowed down after Kuwait imposed a ban against dealing in the currency late last year, but the volume of dinars in the Gulf remained huge, with speculators poised to move in for the kill as and when the international sanctions against Iraq were lifted or even relaxed a bit.

To a large extent, the speculators appeared to have been encouraged by their governments, which obviously hoped to hasten the economic collapse of Iraq by forcing Baghdad to print new banknotes without any monetary base to meet its people's demands.

Jordanians, whose share in the hoarding business was relatively low, Wednesday thronged money-changers in a frantic bid to get rid of the banknotes, but there were few takers. Several exchanges pulled down their shutters against the tide of customers clutching huge bags of the Iraqi currency while others totally refused to accept the embattled dinar.

The Iraqi decision to cancel the 25-dinar notes, varyingly known as "Swiss" and "European," which were in circulation prior to the Gulf crisis sparked by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, was announced in Iraqi papers.

"The 25-dinar note shall be withdrawn from circulation and those in possession of such banknotes have the right to change them for the legally equivalent national currency within a week of the issuance of this decree," said a statement issued by the Revolutionary Command Council and carried by Baghdad papers.

The statement said the closure of the border, which went into effect early morning Wednesday, was to remain in force until Monday midnight. "Arab and non-Arab official delegations with formal business in Iraq as well as Iraqi government officials are exempt from the closure," an official at the Iraqi embassy said.

Jordanian officials declined comment on the Iraqi move, pointing out that it was a "sovereign decision of a foreign government."

"The measure has come within the context of the authority of the Iraqi government, and as such we have no comment," said Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi, governor of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ).

On the impact on the withdrawal of 25-dinar notes move on Jordanians, Dr. al-Nabulsi noted that as a policy the CBJ discourages people from speculating in any currency.

"We have issued warnings to exchangers in the past not to speculate in any currency, particularly Iraqi dinars in one instance but it was a different situation," Dr. al-Nabulsi told the Jordan Times, recalling that the CBJ had to adopt the action last year when money-changers were seen indulging in speculating in Iraqi dinars or encouraging people to do so with hopes that the Iraqi currency would sooner or later regain its pre-crisis value.

Dr. al-Nabulsi said he could not say how much Jordanians might have lost after Wednesday's Iraqi measure, but most officials estimated the loss to be not less than $100 million. [passage omitted]

## Envoy Says UK 'Knew,' 'Approved' of Arms Passed to Iraq

*JN0505092893 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 5 May 93 p 2*

[Excerpt] Jordan's ambassador to Britain has said that the British government knew and approved of an arms supply route to Iraq in run-up to the Gulf war, in breach of its own guidelines.

Fu'ad Ayyub, the Jordanian ambassador in London, said that vital parts for Iraqi tanks were supplied by Britain to Jordan, which then passed them on to Iraq with Britain's knowledge. He said he would be prepared to give evidence to Lord Justice Scott's inquiry into the arms-to-Iraq affair, which starts next week, if Britain attempted to make Jordan a scapegoat. His allegations are supported by a former senior Foreign Office official. The inquiry, set up following the collapse of the Matrix Churchill prosecution last year, will investigate breaches of British government guidelines banning the supply of defence or 'dual-use' equipment, which could be used for military or civil purposes, and breaches of export laws.

Mr. Ayyub, speaking on BBC Radio's Special Assignment programme said: "It is no secret that during the years of the Iran-Iraq war many countries, including Western countries and Arab countries, were keen to see that Iraq's military capability remained undiminished.

"Jordan operated within this context and as such helped to purchase and send arms and equipment to Iraq. Those arms and equipment were financed by other Arab countries and done with the full approval of Western powers, and other Arab nations."

Defence equipment supplied to Jordan in 1985 under a $270m deal signed by Margaret Thatcher was sold on to Iraq to update 200 British Chieftain tanks captured from Iran in the early 1980s. Spare parts for Chieftain armoured recovery vehicles were also sold directly to Iraq. [passage omitted]

## U.S. Envoys Reportedly Seeking To Change Election Law

*JN0605091693 Amman AL-UFUQ in Arabic 5 May 93 p 6*

[Text] The U.S. ambassador and Silverman, head of the Embassy's political section, are working hard through Amman's velvet political salons to increase pressure on the government to amend the election law to the "one man, one vote" system. Observers have noted that certain voices are being raised here and there demanding such a change in the law.

The ambassador met in the past two weeks with a number of political party leaders and some columnists to urge them to pressure the government to change the election law to the one man, one vote system, which is strongly opposed by the majority of political forces.

It has also been learned that the ambassador also wishes to separate the Palestinian refugee camps—11 in total—from the constituencies to which they now belong, and turn each camp into an independent constituency.

Further, and following the recent tour to the region by the CIA director, the U.S. ambassador is obsessed with "Islamic Fundamentalism," especially since he is expected to conclude his tour of duty in Amman within the next two months.

## Change of Government 'Put Off' for Time Being

*JN0605061593 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 6-7 May 93 p 1*

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter Ayman al-Safadi]

[Excerpt] Amman—A change of government that was widely expected to take place any time this week has been put off for at least another few weeks after His Majesty King Husayn asked the cabinet of Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir to remain in office for an unspecified period, a senior government official told the Jordan Times Wednesday.

The official, who asked not to be named, said that King Husayn Tuesday asked al-Sharif Zayd to stay on as prime minister and al- Sharif Zayd conveyed the King's will to his ministers in a cabinet meeting Tuesday evening, urging them to continue with their work and revitalise it wherever possible.

"Every thing has been put on hold," another senior official said.

The resignation of al-Sharif Zayd's cabinet was expected in order to allow for the formation of a transitional government to oversee elections for the 12th Parliament, which are to be held later this year.

The Constitution, however, stipulates that a caretaker government should be formed within 45 days before parliamentary elections are held. No date for the elections has been announced yet but King Husayn last week said they will take place "around November." [passage omitted])

## Buwayz Comments on 'Innovative' Israeli Proposal

*NC0505130893 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has commented on Israel's proposal to set up a military working group that includes a political framework that suits both sides and is innovative and unique, as Uri Lubrani, head of the Israeli delegation to the talks with Lebanon, put it.

Buwayz said the last two sessions of talks with the Israelis were marked by some seriousness. Issues of substance were discussed and it was noticed that the Israeli side avoided maneuvering and procrastination during the discussion, he added. Buwayz went on: We received a written proposal from the Israeli side that perhaps includes some of the required themes, but remains vague and needs further study, specification, and, in particular, a more elaborate timetable.

Asked if a timetable for Israel's withdrawal has been discussed, Buwayz said: The substantive issues on the table start with the principle of Israel's withdrawal from all Lebanese territory. The principle of withdrawal may not be alien to any of the proposals that may have been discussed. He added: There are some positive signs that require further clarification, scrutiny, and scheduling. He said there is nothing new in the Lebanese Government raising the issue of the detainees on various levels. He added: We have repeatedly raised this issue at the UN, during talks with the delegations that visited Lebanon, and at the negotiations. He stressed that the detainees form one of the basic issues, if not the basic one, in the Lebanese-Israeli talks.

## 'Vague' Proposal Said To Have 'Positive Aspects'

*NC0605062493 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz yesterday briefed President Ilyas al-Hirawi and Chamber Speaker Nabih Birri on the text of the Israeli proposal. They felt the proposal was drafted in a difficult and vague way that does not commit Israel to any stance on the main issues, certainly not to the implementation of Resolution 425. Accordingly, they stressed that Israel must prepare a new, accurate, and specific draft of the proposal.

Foreign Minister Buwayz expects the session of talks on Monday to be decisive for the course of the negotiations. This session must achieve tangible progress on every course to pave the way for a 10th round of talks. If not, it will fail.

President al-Hirawi and Speaker Birri agreed to hold urgent contacts with the Arab negotiating teams, especially Syria. Most likely, Buwayz will make a lightning visit to Damascus, where he will hold talks with Syrian officials on the Israeli proposal, which contains some positive aspects, according to Lebanese diplomatic sources. The sources, however, said the proposal is vague.

The Lebanese-Israeli round of talks yesterday was very short, lasting only 30 minutes. Ambassador Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese delegation to the negotiations with Israel, said: We are making an in-depth study of the Israeli proposal, which has been sent to Beirut for the government to study. He added: We will meet again at 1030 today to discuss the proposal thoroughly.

## Russian, U.S. Envoys Hold Meeting With Buwayz

*NC0605111093 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Following his meeting with Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz today, U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker said the discussion dealt with several issues relating to the Middle East Airline company, the amnesty that included people accused of blowing up the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, and the ninth round of the bilateral peace negotiations. Crocker emphasized the importance of maintaining bilateral relations, which are facing some obstacles that are being dealt with.

Ambassador Crocker met Minister Buwayz again in the presence of Russian Ambassador Gennadiy Ilichev and acting Foreign Ministry Secretary General Zafir al-Hasan. The Russian ambassador handed Buwayz an invitation to Lebanon to participate in the meeting of the regional armament control committee to be held in Washington soon. Ilichev said his country wanted Lebanon to participate in the multilateral negotiations, maintaining that the talks process is integral and comprehensive.

Buwayz said the Israeli document submitted by the Israeli delegation entitled A Political Framework for a Joint Military Committee contains positive elements, although it does require refinement. Buwayz said a response to the Israeli proposal will be drawn up in light of the information that Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, deputy head of the Lebanese negotiating delegation with Israel, will bring from Washington this afternoon.

## Al-Hariri, Delegation Return From Gulf Tour

*NC0505201493 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and his accompanying delegation returned to Beirut at 1630 this afternoon from Doha. Immediately following his arrival, al-Hariri headed for the temporary presidential headquarters, where he met with President Ilyas al-Hirawi to brief him on the outcome of his Gulf tour. Al-Hariri did not make any statement after the meeting, which ended at 1745.

## Al-Hirawi Inaugurates Press Association Building

*NC0605114693 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Speaking at the inauguration of the Press Association's new building this morning, President Ilyas al-Hirawi noted the role of the Lebanese press, which, in the past century, he said, shouldered the burden of modernization and progress and was the tool for the renaissance in Lebanon. The president said the government is eager to safeguard freedom in Lebanon and will deprive no one of it. But we must not reach the point of calling to withdraw freedom from those who practice it. He called for maintaining freedom to maintain the state. He said freedom should come before bread and there is no taste for bread if it is not flavored by freedom. No one is greater than the truth, he said, adding that the government will not allow the press and freedom in Lebanon to be undermined. The president wondered whether freedom comes through cordiality as one nears power and if a person is entitled to undermine freedom when he is away from power. Al-Hirawi said: We did not silence the gun to retain the word as the shell. He pledged that the media and freedom in Lebanon will not be undermined. Addressing journalists, he concluded: If you oppose Lebanon, do not write about that; if you write, then write in favor of Lebanon.

## Areas in South Shelled From Israeli Positions

*NC0605111593 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] The outskirts of Jarju' and 'Arab Salim came under 82-mm artillery fire from Israeli forces' positions on Sujud hill at noon today. Al-Wadi al-Akhdar and Jabal al-Butum also came under 155-mm artillery fire from Israeli positions on al-Suwayda' hill. The shelling was accompanied by raking by large-caliber machine guns.

## Further on German Foreign Minister Kinkel's Visit

### Khaddam, Kinkel Discuss Bilateral Ties

*JN0505115793 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] At 0900 today, Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by Syrian Ambassador to Bonn Sulayman Haddad. The talks dealt with the current international and Arab situation as well as bilateral relations.

### Kinkel Says Syria Wants Peace

*LD0505153593 Hamburg DPA in German 1410 GMT 5 May 93*

[Excerpt] Damascus (DPA)—In the view of Federal Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace process should be based on the right to self-determination of the Palestinians and Israel's right to a secure existence. At a news conference at the end of a two-and-a-half hour meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Kinkel said in Damascus today that he has the impression that Syria wants peace. The official Damascus news agency SANA quoted al-Asad as saying that Syria has always worked for a just and comprehensive peace and continues to do so.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', with whom Kinkel conferred for several hours yesterday, assessed the talks in Damascus as "open, positive and productive." The Federal foreign minister's visit will deepen relations between Syria and Germany. [passage omitted]

### Al-Shar', Kinkel News Conference

*JN0505172693 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1626 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Damascus, 5 May (SANA)—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and his German counterpart, Mr. Klaus Kinkel, have held a joint news conference with Arab and foreign reporters in Damascus.

Opening the news conference, Foreign Minister al-Shar' noted that he and the German minister held exhaustive discussions last night, and that Mr. Kinkel called on President Hafiz al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam earlier today.

The talks, he said, were frank, positive, and fruitful, and held in a cordial atmosphere. They should contribute to furthering relations between Syria and Germany, al-Shar' added. The talks addressed important regional and international issues, focusing on the Middle East peace process and the Washington talks. The two sides, al-Shar' continued, viewed the bilateral talks as key to the establishment of a fair and general peace in the region, resting on international legitimacy and UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, underpinning the land-for-peace formula and the peace process that was launched in Madrid.

We spoke about regional issues and compared notes about world developments, including conditions in the former Soviet Union and in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the remaining state of Yugoslavia, al-Shar' said. Overall, al-Shar' said, I was satisfied with the course of the talks.

For his part, the German minister said he was thankful for the extreme hospitality with which he was greeted and the intensive talks he held with Foreign Minister al-Shar'. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad granted us a two-and-one-half-hour audience today, Mr. Kinkel said.

His talks with Mr. al-Shar', he observed, sought to pursue the two countries' efforts to implement the pact they signed in 1991, during the tenure of Genscher as German foreign minister, to boost ties.

My visit to Syria, he added, takes place at a highly interesting time politically, especially given Syria's participation in the Middle East peace talks in Washington. Syria had a visible role in getting these talks off the ground and made constructive efforts to coordinate Arab positions, said Kinkel. The Middle East peace talks took center stage in my discussions with President al-Asad, he added.

The impression I have gained from my talks here is that Syria wants peace, Mr. Kinkel stated.

I put the direct question to President Hafiz al-Asad whether I could tell reporters that Syria was looking forward to peace, and the reply I received was that not only was Syria interested in the establishment of peace, but it held high hopes for peace.

As we see it, added the German minister, the goal of the Middle East peace talks should be to attain an equitable and general peace in the region.

He said that Europe, Germany, and all the world have a vested interest in the success of the peace process. Should the peace process—which we see as irreversible—yield the sought-after peace in this region, the world will heave a collective sigh of relief.

The talks I had with Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam centered on Lebanon. Khaddam emphasized to me that current developments in Lebanon give us grounds for optimism, especially when viewed against the background of past events there, Kinkel added.

He pointed out that relations between Syria and Germany figured prominently in his discussions with Mr. Khaddam. Germany, he said, wants very much to forge balanced ties in the region, particularly with Syria.

His talks in Damascus also addressed global developments and the situation in the Middle East where Syria, he stressed, is a key player that cannot be ignored.

He noted that Syria played a major role not only in the Middle East peace process and the efforts to restart the peace talks, but also during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Kinkel said he was especially grateful for the part Syria played in obtaining the release of German hostages held in Lebanon.

Kinkel invited Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to visit Germany, saying that he would be glad if al-Shar' accepted the invitation.

In reply to a question on his assessment of the ninth round of Middle East peace talks, al-Shar' said: Although many rounds of bilateral peace talks have been held, the latest being the ninth round in Washington, the peace process has not made significant progress.

Al-Shar' added: During the ninth round of talks, substantive matters were raised, but we believe that, according to information we have received, that the Israeli side continues to adhere to its positions which do not help achieve substantial and tangible progress.

In response to another question on the agreement to extend the ninth round of talks for another week upon a request by the United States, al-Shar' said: We have not found it difficult to agree to this extension, especially in light of the U.S. Administration's interest in pushing the peace process forward. The Arab parties to the peace process have given their unanimous approval to the decision to extend the ninth round of talks. He said those parties held a special coordination meeting last night to approve the extension of this round for another week.

Regarding the land-for-peace formula, al-Shar' said that security issues in the region fall within the framework of the Arab-Israeli conflict. He said: Evidently, Israel has occupied others' territory by force and has significantly expanded its occupation over the past decades. The UN records affirm that. Consequently, the Arabs should have more security concerns than the Israelis. At any rate, we are committed to Resolutions 242 and 338, including all their details on Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, guaranteeing security for all, and achieving a comprehensive, just peace in the region.

Al-Shar' added that occupation does not achieve security. On the contrary, he said, Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories would achieve security for all.

In response to a question concerning Russia, Kinkel said: Development in Russia contributes to overcoming the economic situation and to controlling the economy. We hope that the results of the referendum will be translated into tangible reality. This is because Europe and Germany cannot be indifferent toward future developments in Russia and other states of the CIS.

Asked whether he believes that the United States should play a greater role in the peace process to achieve tangible results, Kinkel said that the Americans have played a great role in this process and that they are taking part in shouldering the hefty burden produced by the negotiations. He wished the peace process success.

## Kinkel Concludes Meetings, Departs

*JN0505170693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1030 today German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel and an accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Syrian Ambassador in Bonn Sulayman Haddad.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed several international issues, the situation in the Middle East, and the peace process. The German minister expressed his country's appreciation for the stand adopted by Syria and the president toward the peace process—a stand which pushed the peace process forward in the interest of the region and the world.

The president said that Syria has always sought to achieve a just and comprehensive peace, and is still seeking to fulfill this goal. He added that Syria accepted the initiative to launch the peace process and opened the door for doing so. He noted that Syria also cooperated with the initiators of the peace process to achieve its bases. Discussions also dealt with bilateral relations.

Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received the German minister and accompanying delegation this morning. Talks during that meeting dealt with current international and Arab developments and bilateral relations.

Kinkel left Damascus today at the end of a two-day visit. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', senior Foreign Ministry officials, the Syrian ambassador in Bonn, and the German ambassador in Damascus.

## Interior Minister Meets With Turkish Officials

*JN0505171493 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Interior Minister Dr. Muhammad Harbah led a Syrian delegation in talks this morning with a Turkish delegation led by Fahri Ozturk, secretary general of the Turkish Interior Ministry. The Syrian and Turkish delegates briefed the minister on the outcome of their talks held within the framework of an existing bilateral security pact. They explored ways of boosting bilateral cooperation to advance the interests of the two friendly peoples.

Dr. Harbah noted that, led by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, Syria is keen to step up relations with Turkey.

Mr. Ozturk said he was pleased with his talks in Damascus, and noted with satisfaction that the two countries have cooperative relations, adding that his country is interested in even deeper cooperation.

## Talks With Turkish Delegation Conclude

*JN0605081893 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Damascus—Official talks between a Syrian Arab delegation, headed by Assistant Interior Minister Major General Ahmad Sa'id al-Salih, and a Turkish delegation, led by Fahri Ozturk, secretary general of the Turkish Interior Ministry, were concluded in Damascus this evening. Members of the two delegations and the Turkish ambassador in Damascus attended.

Joint minutes of the meeting were signed. The joint minutes cover cooperation in all fields to maintain security and combat crime and narcotics. The minutes also cover cooperation and coordination among the competent Interior Ministry agencies in both countries to tackle issues of mutual concern.

The joint minutes were signed for Syria by Maj. Gen. Ahmad Sa'id al-Salih, assistant interior minister, and for Turkey by Fakhri Oztuk, Interior Ministry secretary general.

## Papers Urge U.S. Role, Stress 'Rare Opportunity' for Peace

*JN0305084793 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 3 May 93*

[Press review]

[Text] Discussing the peace talks in its editorial, TISHRIN describes the current phase as a real test for the U.S. Administration, and notes the obstacles Israel is placing in the way of the peace process.

TISHRIN says: No doubt, a precise follow-up of three sessions in the ninth round of talks between the Arab and Israeli delegations in Washington will reveal that the U.S. sponsor has been more active than in the previous rounds. This means that the U.S. Administration is now being put to a real, decisive test in order to promote and activate the talks, work seriously for removing the Israeli obstacles and barriers, and save the peace process and achieve its set objectives. The role of a partner can be defined as one that assumes the responsibility of an honest broker who is totally biased toward peace which is based on right and justice—peace which will stabilize the entire region and end the Israeli occupation of all occupied Arab territories.

TISHRIN adds: By announcing its commitment to a full partner role, the United States has indicated that the land-for-peace principle means that the Israelis should hand the occupied territories over to the Arabs, who will reciprocate by granting peace to Israel. As the Rabin government has not yet yielded to the peace terms, and as it openly adheres to the occupation of Arab territories, then naturally the United States should play the role of an honest broker and full partner in order to honor its pledges and champion the resolutions of international legitimacy. Naturally, the United States should intervene in favor of the peace process and oblige Israel to abide by the principles designed to achieve a just and comprehensive peace.

TISHRIN also refers to Rabin's statements on the eve of the second week of the ninth round affirming that Israel does not want the peace process to achieve its set and real objectives. Israel is trying once again to confine the Washington talks to discussing formalities and unsubstantial matters.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: The peace process may again fall into the Israeli traps if the current policy of the Tel Aviv government continues. Moreover, the Israeli oral peace allegations constitute mere delusions and deception. The peace process is still at a crossroad, and Israel should not be allowed to lead it into a quagmire of falsehoods and miscalculations. This process should not be derailed through partial solution proposals and separate deals or through holding on to the entire territories or some of them. Here, the peace process should be corrected by adopting a unified Arab stand that rejects the Israeli tricks and exposes Rabin's maneuvers. This also requires an effective U.S. role.

AL-BA'TH's editorial discusses the ninth round of peace talks, describing it as a rare opportunity, and points to Israel's evasion of the peace requirements. The paper says: Without a doubt, the three sessions held in the first week of talks have produced clear answers regarding Israel's position, which remains unchanged and continues to offer exposed proposals. On the face of it, these proposals contain flowery language about peace, but in actual fact they totally conflict with the bases on which the peace process was established.

AL-BA'TH adds: The Israeli double standards used in Washington only mean that Israel is evading the peace requirements and refuses to abide by the international resolutions which stress full withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. Accordingly, Israel rejects commitment to the land-for-peace principle on which the peace process has been based since the Madrid conference.

AL-BA'TH continues: Israel managed to maneuver throughout the eight previous rounds. If there are unanswered questions about the U.S. role, this role should indeed assume its due position based on the declared U.S. commitment regarding full partnership and work for achieving tangible steps on the path of peace. Pointing out that the Arab parties have seriously worked to achieve a comprehensive and just peace for the past one and a half years, the paper says: The Arab parties' stand has not changed. As was unanimously shown by observers and the two cosponsors of the peace conference, the Arab stand has provided a rare opportunity to stabilize the region and defuse its tension.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: This opportunity is still there. The successful attainment of peace depends on the role of the full partner, who is required to be honest and neutral. It also depends on the Rabin government's relinquishment of its tricks and intransigence.

## Israeli 'Disinformation' on Deal With Palestinians Cited

*JN0405070393 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0450 GMT 4 May 93*

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israel Launching Major Disinformation Campaign," AL-BA'TH says: Whoever follows some of the reports about the current peace talks in Washington thinks, for a moment, that it is only a matter of days before peace is achieved. Far be it from the truth.

Israel has so far refused to engage in a discussion of substantive issues, particularly withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, as an unavoidable major step to achieve a just, comprehensive peace. Israel has, as usual, resorted to maneuvers and procrastination, using new ways and means to deal with each Arab party alone, in the hope of fragmenting the settlement and undermining the unified Arab position on the peace process—a position which materialized in the recent Damascus meetings of the foreign ministers of Arab parties directly involved in the peace process.

We in Syria are fully aware of the Israeli game and its aims, AL-BA'TH adds. For, after the end of the eighth round of the peace talks in Washington, the Israeli media played up the idea that agreement between Syria and Israel was imminent. Today, there are reports which give the impression that an agreement between Israel and the Palestinian side is about to be signed. These reports come at a time when the Rabin government has renewed its decision to maintain the Gaza Strip siege and starve the residents of the occupied Arab territories.

Returning 30 deportees definitely does not mean that Israel has acknowledged the rights of the Palestinian people to their land. There are still thousands of other deportees. In fact, there are 400 Palestinian deportees in Marj al-Zuhur and an international resolution has been issued to return them, but Israel has refused to comply.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: The Arabs, as leader al-Asad asserted, have agreed to participate in the peace process because it rests on UN resolutions calling for the exchange of land for peace. The peace process, however, is still at square one, since Israel has to date not declared its commitment to the conditions and obligations of peace.

Commenting on the same issue, TISHRIN says: The Arabs have contributed toward opening the door for peace and done everything possible to pave the way for a comprehensive settlement.

Washington should now intervene and assume full partnership, by forcing Israel to quit its maneuvers and comply with principles to achieve peace based on full withdrawal from the occupied territories and recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people. Only then will the United States convince the Arabs and the world that it is truly serious about assuming the role of an honest partner, and meet its obligations as a sponsor of the peace process, which aims, in the first place, to eliminate the causes of aggression, end occupation, and return usurped rights.

## People's Assembly Approves 1993 Draft State Budget

*JN0505134693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 May 93*

[Excerpt] During a session held this morning, the People's Assembly approved the state draft budget law for 1993. The session was chaired by Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah and attended by a number of ministers. The budget's overall allocations amount to 123.018 billion Syrian pounds, 32.22 percent more than the allocations of the 1992 state budget. The allocations include 61.268 billion Syrian pounds for current expenditures and 61.749 billion Syrian pounds for investment purposes. [passage omitted]

## Afghanistan

### Two Killed in Missile Attacks on Kabul 4 May

*LD0605083293 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Yesterday Kabul city was once again subjected to fire from 27 rounds of mortar shells. A military correspondent of Bakhtar Information Agency quoting a responsible security source reports that the missiles hit the first, fourth, fifth, and eleventh wards of the city. As a result of this two of our defenseless compatriots were martyred and nine others were injured. The missiles were fired from the southwest direction, and in addition to loss of life caused financial damage to our compatriots.

### Hezb-e Eslami Forces Said To Join Government

*LD0505173493 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] In line with the process of the armed mojahedin from Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party] coming to the state's side in Parwan and Kapisa Provinces, today more than 2,500 armed mojahedin came to the side of Islamic sovereignty in Kapisa Province along with various types of weapons, including thousands of light weapons, dozens of heavy weapons, such as guns, tanks, and BM-21 system.

According to a report by an official source in the Defense Ministry, as a result of these mojahedin switching sides, the key regions in Kapisa Province, including the center of the province, Kohestan District, and Bulaghain subdistrict have come under Islamic sovereignty. As a result of action taken by the armed men from Hezb-e Eslami, led by Hekmatyar, to come the side of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, the sincerity of the Islamic and principled policy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan has once again been proven.

The fact that the armed men from Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami standing alongside the Islamic State in Parwan and Kapisa Provinces has contributed to the creation of a completely peaceful climate in those provinces. This process shows that the Muslim people of Afghanistan are weary of war and fratricide and do not want the Afghan blood to be shed by Afghans.

The armed men from Hezb-e Eslami switched sides as a result of efforts made by the ulema, elders, and caring mojahedin. The process of these armed men changing sides still continues.

## India

### Lok Sabha Discusses, Passes Central Budget

*BK0505161493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The finance minister has rejected the demand for a further increase in income tax limit and abolition of surcharge on personal and corporate income tax. Replying to the discussion on the Finance Bill in the Lok Sabha this evening, Dr. Manmohan Singh said resource constraints do not allow him to take any risk this year. He also described as figment of imagination the opposition charges that the new economic policy is a sellout and that multinationals are going to take over the country's economy. Dr. Singh said the experience of the last 22 months speaks otherwise and the opposition apprehension that the inflation rate will go up has proved false. The finance minister reiterated that a phased reduction in customs duty is the only way for the country to emerge as a competitive economy. He said high customs duty will lead to a steep increase in the cost of production, making the economy a high cost one. Dr. Singh also expressed his intention to implement the major recommendations of the Raja Chelliah Committee in a phased manner.

Earlier, participating in the resumed discussion, several opposition members charged the government with leading the country into a debt trap. The Congress-I members, on the other hand, strongly supported the policies which, they said, have put the country back on the path of economic recovery and progress.

The Lok Sabha has now taken up the Finance Bill 1993 for voting and the process was on when reports last came in. [Delhi All India Radio Network in English at 1541 GMT on 5 May announces: "A message just received says Lok Sabha has passed the Finance Bill 1993 by 248 votes in favor and 193 against. Earlier the house adopted official amendments and rejected the opposition amendments. The bill gives effect to the financial proposals of the central government for the current financial year."]

### Lower House Passes Bill

*BK0605055793 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] The Lok Sabha completed the marathon budget exercise yesterday by passing the Finance Bill 1993 by 248 votes in favor and 193 against. There were four abstentions. The bill was approved after adopting official amendments and rejecting the opposition's amendments. The bill gives effect to the financial proposals of the central government for the current financial year.

Our parliament correspondent reports that on two opposition amendments the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], National Front, and left parties voted together as well as in the final voting. One of the amendments moved by Mr. Manobendra Shah of BJP sought the inclusion of the Jarwal and Komar regions of the Himalayas in the tax holiday for new industries in backward areas. The other amendment moved by Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee, CPI [Communist Party of India], was for similar benefit for tribal areas in Bihar. In all, the opposition pressed for division on six occasions.

In a brief intervention during the voting, the finance minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, denied that the tariff policy is against the interest of the domestic industry. Earlier, replying to the discussion on the Finance Bill, Dr. Manmohan Singh rejected the opposition demand for a further increase in the income tax exemption limit and abolition of surcharge on personal and corporate income tax. He said resource constraints do not allow him to take any risks this year. He also described as figment of imagination the opposition charges that the new economy policies are a sell out and that multinationals are going to take over the country's economy. The finance minister reiterated that a phased reduction in customs duty is the only way for the country to emerge as a competitive economy.

The Rajya Sabha yesterday continued discussion on the general budget. While the Congress-I members welcomed the budget, an independent member criticized it. The ruling party members said that the budget is growth-oriented and help the economy to stage a recovery. They said that the thrust of the budget proposals is on creation of infrastructure and boosting exports. An independent member pleaded for more concessions to the local entrepreneurs in the northeast and wanted special provisions to remove disparities. The discussion will continue.

### V.P. Singh Resigns From Janata Dal

*BK0505155893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Mr. V.P. Singh says that he has resigned as the leader of the Janata Dal parliamentary party because of illness. Talking to newspersons in New Delhi today, he said he has already informed the Lok Sabha speaker of his decision. About the Mandal Commission recommendations [on reservation of jobs and facilities for backward classes], he said the center should work out a framework to ensure that its benefits reach poor farmers belonging to backward classes.

### Actor Held for Bombay Blasts Released on Bail

*BK0505092293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] A two-member vacation bench of the Bombay High Court today ordered the release on bail of Sanjay Dutt, the leading cinema actor. The judges held that they were prima facie of the view that the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act [TADA] was not applicable to the facts and circumstances of the case. The bench also ordered the film star to deposit 100,000 rupees before the designated TADA court. As reported, Sanjay Dutt was held under TADA in connection with illegal possession of an AK-56 rifle.

### Customs Official Arrested Under Terrorism Act

*BK0605093193 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 29 Apr 93 p 1*

[Text] Bombay—In a sensational development, the Maharashtra police arrested the Additional Collector of Customs (Marine and Preventive), Mr. S.N. Thapa, here on Wednesday in connection with the various landings of explosives along the state's coast.

The sources said that following the arrest he has been detained under the Terrorist and Disruptive Activites Act (TADA) for complicity in the landings which could have led to the fateful bomb blasts in the city on March 12. he will be produced before the special TADA court on Thursday.

### Six 'Top Militants' Killed in Kashmir

*BK0605093293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] In the Kashmir valley, six top militants and 26 Pakistan-trained militants were arrested during the last 24 hours. The state police chief, Mr. B.S. Bedi, said in Srinagar that a large quantity of arms and ammunition, including 21 AK-47 rifles were recovered from the arrested and killed militants.

### Kashmir Policemen Dismissed for Indiscipline

*BK0605041093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, 79 policemen have been dismissed from service for indiscipline. Disclosing this to AIR [All India Radio] Jammu correspondent, the director general of police, Mr. B.S. Bedi, said those dismissed includes a commandant and a deputy commandant. He said the screening of the force in view of recent agitation by a section of the J and K [Jammu and Kashmir] armed police is yet to be completed. He said those who participated in the recent agitation were under the influence of some outside forces.

### Deteriorating Situation in Kashmir Viewed

*BK0605093993 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 29 Apr 93 p 8X*

[Editorial: "Coping With Kashmir"]

[Text] The disarming of Jammu and Kashmir [J and K] policemen on Tuesday was unavoidable given the fact that they had virtually staged a revolt over the death in custody of one of their colleagues, Riyaz Ahmed. While there must be an inquiry into the role of the security forces in connection with Ahmed's death, the conduct of J and K policemen is unpardonable particularly in the context of the recent spurt in Pakistan-sponsored insurgency in the State. In fact, their virtual revolt has every appearance of being a part of it. But while welcoming the belated firmness of the authorities, it is impossible not to note that the upheaval by policemen will no doubt be exploited by Pakistan to whip up anti- India feelings at the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) and to divert attention from its own role in unleashing terrorism on India and prevent itself from being branded a terrorist State by the United States.

Nor can one overlook the fact that the virtual revolt by policemen and the sudden deterioration in the law and order situation in the State which had earlier seemed to be on the mend, would not have occurred but for Mr Rajesh Pilot's harebrained idea of pursuing a political solution in Jammu and Kashmir with the thoroughly discredited Dr. Farooq Abdullah as the ace. That entire effort, which included the replacement of the Governor, Mr. G. C. Saxena, by General K.V. Krishna Rao (retd), and major changes in the administrative set-up in the valley, has clearly been proved to be an unmitigated disaster by the recent events and needs to be unceremoniously abandoned. A political initiative will be successful only if it is launched after insurgency ebbs and involves people who have a stake in the valley and are not its fair-weather residents. The choice of Dr. Abdullah was singularly unfortunate. It was not just that his incompetence and worse as the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir which was responsible for the sharp deterioration in the law and order situation in the valley in late 1989 and early 1990. He virtually fled the valley at the outbreak of the crisis and spent the better part of it in distant Britain.

Mr. Pilot's naivete in banking on Dr. Abdullah has been sharply underlined by the latter's sudden departure to Britain almost simultaneously with the current deterioration of the situation in the valley. But then the present deterioration of the situation in the valley cannot be attributed to Mr. Pilot alone. The Central Government and the Prime Minister are equally to be blamed for allowing him to mess about in the Kashmir Valley. The least that can be done now is to ask him to be more cautious in his approach to the valley, decide once for all not to have any truck with Dr Abdullah and his proteges, treat the police revolt as a purely law and order matter, and be more circumspect about launching a political initiative in the valley.

## Situation Tense in Imphal, Over 100 Arrested

*BK0605043093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] In Manipur, the situation in the trouble-torn Thoubal District is reported to be improving since violence erupted on Monday. The inspector general of police told our Imphal correspondent that many people from the district who are taking shelter in several relief camps in Imphal have started returning home. He said there has been no report of any untoward incident from the district during the past 24 hours. Curfew in Lelong areas of the Thoubal District is being relaxed for two hours from seven to nine this morning.

However, the situation in Imphal District is tense but under control. Our correspondent reports that in view of the tense situation the curfew has been extended up to nine tomorrow morning. It will be relaxed for four hours from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. today. Meanwhile, police arrested over 100 persons from various sensitive localities in Imphal in connection with the violence.

## Air Force To Upgrade MiG Fleet

*BK3004132093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 30 Apr 93*

[Text] The Indian Air Force [IAF] has decided to upgrade its MIG fleet of fighter aircraft before the induction of the indigenous multirole light combat aircraft—LCA. Addressing a news conference in Bangalore today, the chief of the air staff, Air Chief Marshal Nirmal Suri, said the prestigious Light Combat Aircraft will be test flown in another three years. He said acquisition of jet fighters from abroad will be the last priority of the IAF. Earlier, the Air Chief Marshal received the 3,000 aircraft [as heard] manufactured by the public sector Hindustan Aeronautics.

## A.N. Prasad New Director of Atomic Research Center

*BK0405145893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Mr. A.N. Prasad has been appointed director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Center [BARC]. He is presently purchasing director of the fuel reprocessing and nuclear waste management group in BARC.

## ISRO Chairman on Details of Future Launches

*BK3004115793 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 19 Apr 93 p 6*

[Text] Madras—The chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Mr U.R. Rao said here on Sunday that the first of the PSLV [Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle] series would be launched from Sriharikota by July or August end, this year.

Addressing a press conference, Prof Rao said that the PSLV would put into the polar orbit the engineering model of the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS) which would contain a special Indo-German payload. The satellite would give geographical information in three- dimensional pictures .

Stating that the Rs [rupees] 50 crore PSLV was a huge vehicle weighing about 275 tonnes, Prof Rao said that it contained a 75 metre mobile tower—which was the largest in Asia. A huge quantity of 3000 tonne of steel was used in building the tower. He said that the cost of production of our satellite would be just one-third of the import price of them.

The ISRO chairman was here to receive the honorary doctorate degree awarded to him by Sri Venkateswara University. He would visit Sriharikota on Monday to oversee the PSLV works.

Asked about the future programmes of ISRO, Prof Rao said that by the end of this Year next ASLV and IRS-IC would be launched by while GSLV was likely to be ready by 1995 [sentence as published]. Similarly INSAT-2B would be put into space by July.

He said that ISRO was now trying to export its space technology. An autonomous corporation—Antrix—under the Department of Space had already been formed for this purpose.

The corporation had already secured two contracts from international maritime satellites corporation.

With regard to the proposed Gramsat, Prof Rao said that ISRO would approach the Space Commission for its approval. He expects to commission it by the end of the year.

He said that IRS-IC would be a vastly improved satellite. It would have a wide-angled camera and would be able to provide information about drought conditions immediately. Similarly, INSAT-2C which was expected to be ready by middle of 1995 would be quite different from INSAT-2B. This satellite would be utilised for improving communication facilities in the country rather than providing meteorological information.

The ISRO chairman said that personalised communication network would be the most important factor in another 10 years and hence ISRO was laying more emphasis on providing mobile communication facilities. "We want to bring these facilities to the doorsteps of the people".

Prof. Rao said that the Indian space programme would not be affected by the embargo imposed by the US on the sale of cryogenic engines. The Russian President, Mr. Boris Yeltsin had assured that he would honour the agreement reached for the sale of those engines to India.

Replying to a question, he said that the budgetory outlay for ISRO for the current year was Rs 718 crore as against Rs 580 crore allocated last year.

## Center for Strategic Studies To Be Built

*BK0605083393 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 26 Apr 93 p 17*

[Text] New Delhi—The foundation stone for a research center for strategic studies, to be run by serving and retired defence officers, was laid on Monday by the army chief Gen S.F.Rodrigues.

The research center will be housed in the newly proposed United Services Insitution (USI) of India building. The entire project is expected to cost Rs [rupees] 5.43 crore and will be operative in 36 months, according to the USI director Maj Gen (retd) S.C.Sinha.

The long felt need for a forum where the country's intelligensia and the defence services can interact and jointly contribute towards strategic thinking will be met through this project, according to the Air Chief Marshal N.C.Suri.

## Committee on Defense Issues 'First Ever' Report

*BK0605090593 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 28 Apr 93 p 12*

[Text] New Delhi—The first ever report of the newly constituted Standing Committee on Defence tabled on Tuesday in both the Houses of Parliament has put emphasis on expediting defence modernisation programmes within budgetary constraints, and on a harder push to indigenisation.

The Committee, which met four times recently under the chairmanship of Buta Singh, was apprised of the various measures taken by the ministry and services headquarters to tackle the twin issues.

The ministry claimed that efforts have been made to mobilise resources through savings, which will be utilised towards services modernisation. The savings largely relate to manpower, POL [petroleum, oil and lubricants], transportation and inventory management.

The biggest savings have been effected in the army through reduction in the authorisation of equipment, one time reduction in the inventory in the army ordnance corps, reduction of land norms, introduction of fuel efficient vehicles, and new transportation models, the army has saved Rs [rupees] 1,000 crore per annum, according to official claims.

The saving from the Navy through economy measures is expected to be Rs 49.93 crore. The air force by restriction of movement of personnel and surrender of 6,631 posts is likely to save Rs 67.90 crore.

The Committee was informed that many recommendations regarding economy measures made by the committee on Defence expenditure set up in June, 1990 (popularly referred to as the Arun Singh committee report) have been implemented. Certain aspects of the report, which envisages fundamental structural changes are still under examination. The standing committee, however desired that the report be made public as early as possible.

Regarding indigenisation, the Committee was informed that a number of duly-empowered panels have been set up for identification and 'indigenisation' of spares and equipments. The committee has urged that [sentence as published] Regarding indigenisation, the committee was informed that a number of duly-empowered panels have been set up for identification and indigenisation of spares and equipments. The Committee has urged that concerted efforts be made towards ensuring success in this regard within a specified time frame.

They also suggested that similar panels be set up to give a fillip to indigenisation in other areas. The Committee recommended that thrust be given to the export of defence products and the existing infrastructure be put to optimal use with a view to increasing resources.

On the condition of cantonments, the committee was informed that Cantonment Boards have the power to raise resources through taxation, fees, lease rents in respect of lands under the management of the boards and rentals in respect of properties belonging to or vested in the Boards. The Committee has recommended that an expert group be consituted to make indepth study to find out resources available with the Cantonment Boards. It also suggested that the Boards be represented by, among others, MLAs [Members of Legislative Assembly]/MPs of the respective areas.

While the demand for grants pertaining to the defence ministry have been examined and approved by the Standing Committee, the Committee expressed inability to conduct an in-depth study due to paucity of time.

## Minister on Import, Customs Duty Concessions

*BK0405164293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Income tax exemption limit has been increased to 30,000 rupees. Substantial cuts in the basic customs duty on some life- saving drugs and equipment and reduction in import duty on several items to help industry are among the other highlights of the concessions announced by the finance minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, while moving the Finance Bill 1993 in the Lok Sabha today. He said that the income tax limit was raised to 28,000 rupees in the 1992 budget, but recognizing the hardships faced by salaried people the limit has been increased by 2,000 rupees. He said the limit for deductions under Section-80 L regarding income in the nature of bank interests, dividends and such sources is being raised from 7,000 to 10,000 rupees.

The finance minister also announced that a five-year tax holiday for new industrial undertakings in backward states or setting of power generation units can now avail the concessions if they start production before March 1998. [sentence as heard] Earlier, this concession was offered only to those industries which started production within two years.

Proposing some changes to remove anomalies in the import duty structure, the finance minister announced reduction in import duty on caustic soda from 40 to 35 percent and on steel melting scrap from 15 to 12.5 percent. The proposed reduced 35 percent import duty on capital goods will be extended to molds, jigs, fixtures, dies and such items to encourage the growth of automobile component industry. He also proposed reduction in the import duty on modules and subassemblies for telecom equipment from 85 percent to 60 percent and on silicon wafers using certain electronic components from 75 percent to 35 percent. The import duty on industrial diamonds in dust or powder form is proposed to be slashed to 40 percent from 85 percent and on ceramic sanitary ware of porcelain or China to 30 percent from 45 percent.

The finance minister also proposed a substantial cut in the basic customs duty on certain life-saving drugs and equipment from 85 percent to 10 percent. He also proposed increase in the limit for excise duty exemption for unregistered small-scale units from 10 lakh rupees to 30 lakhs. Some concessions for poultry industry to boost exports were also announced. He said the proposed concessions will result in a net revenue loss of 125 crore rupees to the Center and 304 crores to the states. He said the notification relating to these changes will be laid on the table of the house later.

## Delhi Looks Into Hiring U.S. Lobbyists on Pakistan

*BK0405075893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] New Delhi is considering to engage professional lobbyist in the United States to educate the public about the support of Pakistan to terrorism in India. Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha today, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Salman Khurshid, said that extensive documentation on Pakistan's support to terrorism in India has been disseminated by Indian missions abroad. Frequent briefings of legislators, the media and the opinion makers are also being undertaken to counter Pakistan's propaganda campaign.

## ADB Pledges Billion Dollars in Loans

*BK0605091893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] The president of the Asian Development Bank [ADB], Mr. Tarumizu, has assured a lending level of about 1 billion dollars a year to India in the next few years. Last year the amount sanctioned was about $900 million. The Indian delegation headed by Finance secretary Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia today discussed with the bank president the medium-term lending strategy for India. They also discussed the program for fast disbursing operations for reforms in capital markets and restructuring of public enterprises. A spokesman for the Indian delegation told our correspondent that an ADB mission will visit India shortly. Asked about problems faced in loan disbursements, the spokesman said that New Delhi has launched a major move for improvement of project implementation and monitoring.

## U.S. Embargo Not Affecting Satellite Projects

*BK0605071393 Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Apr 93 p 6*

[Text] Bangalore, April 25—The second indigenously fabricated multi-utility satellite INSAT-IIB, set for launch on June 29, will provide a fillip to the revolution spawned by its predecessor INSAT-IIA in realms as varied as telecommunication, civil aviation, education, meteorology, and radio and television broadcasting.

A carbon copy of the INSAT-IIA in its functional attribute and appearance, the blue and golden-hued satellite would bolster the telecommunication and radio and TV broadcasting services. Besides, the six high-power transponders (of the 18 fitted on the satellite) will facilitate establishment of more roof-top telecom networks for business transactions and teleconferencing. Its search and rescue (SAR) transponder will strain to pickup May-day calls and support search and rescue missions over the Indian Ocean. The satellite is now undergoing various tests at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Satellite Centre (ISEC) here on the eve of its shipment to Kourou in French Guyana for launch by the Ariane rocket.

ISRO sources told UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA] that the satellite, which could pass off as a sci-fi mascot (on deployment) complete with a pair of Mickey-mouse ears, would help establish beyond doubt India's expertise in the area of satellite technology.

"INSAT-IIB will help us to prove to the world that we can repeatedly build state-of-the-art multi-purpose satellites", the sources added.

The sources said the master control facility (MCF) at Hassan in Karnataka was being readied to handle the post-launch manoeuvres of the INSAT-IIB satellite. The satellite control earth station (SCES), the multi-mission control centre, was being subjected to various checks through mock launch and in-orbit operations.

The Rs. [rupees] 60 crore, 1900 kg satellite weighs 50 per cent more than the INSAT-I series of satellites which were acquired from Ford Aerospace and Communications Corporation (FAC) of the United States, and has double telecommunications capacity of the first generation satellites. It has telecommunications capacity of the first generation satellites. It has been fitted with superior-power very high resolution radio-meter (VHRR) to beam razor-sharp images of the cloud-cover and accurate reading of wind speeds for improved weather forecasting. It would be co-located along with the INSAT-IIA spacecraft for increased capacity, almost thrice as much as the INSAT-I systems.

The sources said with successful deployment of INSAT-IIB, the country could have adequate number of transponders for Radio and TV broadcasting, telecommunication and other applications. Besides the 18 transponders of INSAT-IIA, 12 onboard the INSAT-ID are now being utilised for these services, with another 18 transponders of the INSAT-IIB also available. The projected demand for transponders by mid-1990s would be met. "We may consider delaying the launch of INSAT-IIC until the demand for more transponders crop up", the sources added.

The sources said the technology embargo clamped by the United States on ISRO for alleged violation of the missile technology control regime (MTCR) had not affected the INSAT-IIB project. The successful deployment of this satellite would mean third milestone for ISRO since the announcement of the embargo on May 11 last.

## U.S.Trying To 'Hijack' Biodiversity Convention

*BK0605095793 Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Apr 93 p 5*

[Text] The United States wants to 'hijack' the biodiversity convention to use it against the Third World which is the source of all biodiversity as well as the source of all biological wealth, according to renowned environmentalist Dr. Vandana Shiva, reports UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA].

Dr. Shiva said the U.S., which had refused to sign the biodiversity convention at the Earth Summit in Rio last year "because of the pressure of the biotechnology industry" of that country, had now agreed to do so because of pressure from the same industry.

"The Clinton administration has been working with a group of industry and industry-oriented environmental representatives to work out an interpretation of the bio-diversity convention that would protect the U.S. biotechnology industry's interests and totally undo the objectives of the convention which was a result of two years of global negotiations", she said.

The convention, concluded at the historic Rio Summit, was a response to increasing international concern about the loss of species.

"The most important perversion" in the new U.S. interpretation of the convention was the shift from concern for the protection of biodiversity to the protection of the biotechnology industry, she alleged.

According to Dr. Shiva, the U.S. concern was for the protection of intellectual property rights of corporations whose "intellectual property" was built on free exploitation of Third World knowledge rather than the protection of indigenous knowledge of local communities.

She said indigenous communities of the Third World know their problems can be solved by retaining and regaining control over their local resources and their indigenous knowledge systems. Losing control and ownership over their resources and innovations was the cause of their problems and not the solution.

"Indigenous resources and indigenous knowledge for indigenous solution is the grassroots option emerging throughout India. These movements and communities will not be coerced by the U.S. and its corporations to hand over their biological and cultural heritage for a few dollars".

She alleged that the U.S. Administration was trying to violate the human rights of millions of farmers, pastoralists and herbalists.

Dr. Shiva said the private companies in biotechnology had benefitted from free access to public sector research systems and from Third World indigenous knowledge.

"The research products for which they claim intellectual property protection are not entirely the result of their investments but the investment of centuries of creativity of peasant and tribal societies, and decades of investment of public sector research.

The entire world community especially grassroots groups engaged in biodiversity conservation recognise that monopoly rights in the form of intellectual property rights would totally undermine the rights of local communities in the south.

## Iran

### Ministry Protests Action Against IMF Delegate

*LD0505152293 Tehran IRNA in English 1422 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, (IRNA)—Swiss ambassador and caretaker of the U.S. interests in the Islamic Republic, Anton Greber, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry today and informed of Iran's protest against the U.S.' barring of Hojatoleslam Shahrudi from entering Washington.

American emigration officials and police without any justification refused entry to Shahrudi although he was holding a valid visa and was part of the Iranian delegation to the spring meeting of the International Monitory Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Foreign Ministry Director General for American Affairs Nadai- Fard, addressing Greber termed as "ugly and in contradiction with the international rules and regulations" Washington's attitude towards the Iranian delegates.

Nadai-Fard voiced the Islamic Republic's concern over continuation of such behaviour with Iranian political bodies and delegates at international sessions.

He called on the U.S. to explain on its "hostile and illegal" gesture.

Greber said that he will convey the Iranian protest to the U.S. Government.

### Danish Envoy Brings EC Message Urging Contacts

*NC0605080993 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0230 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] The Danish prime minister, whose country holds the alternating Presidency of the European Community [EC], has sent a message to President Hashemi-Rafsanjani voicing the EC's serious wish to continue constructive talks with Iran. In his message, the Danish prime minister stresses that a situation has now emerged in which to continue talks between the EC and Iran and that for the first time, EC heads are in contact with Iran in a coordinated manner.

The Danish prime minister's message came in response to one from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani to EC heads [on 20 February]. The Danish ambassador, representing the EC, handed the message to First Vice President Habibi. During the meeting, Habibi stressed Iran's wish to have frank talks with EC members and said the interests of governments and nations should not be harmed by propaganda objectives. The first vice president said frank talks make it possible to acquire precise, first-hand information.

#### Message Urges 'Constructive Talks'

*LD0605101993 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA—Danish Prime Minister Poul Schlueter whose country holds the rotating presidency of the European Community (EC), in a message to President Akbar Hashemi- Rafsanjani called for continuation of constructive talks with Iran.

The letter, handed over to First Vice-President Hasan Habibi by Danish Ambassador to Tehran Erling Harild Nielsen, is in reply to President Rafsanjani's letter to the community leaders earlier this year.

Schulueter further noted that EC heads were interested in the continuation of talks with Tehran for which, he added, the ground was ripe since for the first time EC leaders were corresponding with Iran unanimously.

Habibi also underscored Iran's demand for holding clear-cut negotiations with the Community member states and noted that interests of governments and nations should not become subject to propaganda objectives. "Clear-cut negotiations will provide for obtaining precise and first hand information," he said.

### Ukraine Minister Visits; Ties Discussed

#### Industrial, Commercial Ties

*LD0505162993 Tehran IRNA in English 1457 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA—A senior Ukrainian official currently visiting Tehran said today that Ukraine was willing to expand its industrial and commercial ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In his meeting with First Vice President Hasan Habibi here, Yuliy Ioffe, deputy prime minister of Ukraine, said the two countries should try to remove hinderances to mutual cooperation.

Habibi said in response that both Iran and Ukraine enjoyed necessary conditions for cooepration in areas of mining, geology, oil and gas.

He voiced the Islamic Republic's readiness to promote its economic and cultural relations with Ukraine.

In a separate meeting with Minister of Industries Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh here today, Ioffe called for mutual cooperation between Iranian and Ukrainian companies operating in various fields.

Ne'matzadeh proposed that both countries increase cooperation in technical, economic, industrial and training fields and in transfer of technology.

The Ukrainain deputy premier arrived here Monday heading a high ranking delegation at the invitation of Minister of Mines and Metals Mohammad Hoseyn Mahlujhi.

### Letters of Understanding Signed

*LD0505161693 Tehran IRNA in English 1409 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA—Iran and Ukraine Wednesday inked several letters of understanding for industrial, mineral and economic cooperation.

The documents, signed by Minister of Mines and Metals Hoseyn Mahlujhi and Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine Yuliy Ioffe, call for Tehran-Kiev cooperation in mine exploration, geology, exchange of experts, scientific and technological information and technical training.

The two officials also reached agreements in the fields of tourism and transportation.

Ioffe, who arrived here on Monday, has held talks with ministers of industries, heavy industries, energy, oil and foreign affairs.

### Memorandum on Cooperation Signed

*LD0605103393 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] A memorandum of understanding on cooperation in industrial, mines, and energy spheres was signed between Ukraine and the Islamic Republic of Iran, in Tehran this morning. According to the said memorandum of understanding which was signed by Mr. Mahluji, our country's minister of mines and metals, and Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Ioffe, the two countries have reached agreement on the extraction of coal, the re-equipment and reconstruction of the plant in Kerman which turns coal into smokeless fuel and Iran's other coal mines, as well as on the transport via Ukraine of coal concentrate purchased from Russia. According to our correspondent's report, among the other clauses of the agreement were: cooperation in the spheres of geology, technology on potassium extraction, joint investment in the exploration and extraction of lead, zinc and chromite concentrates, joint investment in Iran's Titanium project, exchange of experts, exchange of technical and scientific expertise, tourism cooperation between the Qeshm free zone and Ukraine, joint construction of marine turbines and generators, and export of Iranian oil to Ukraine.

## Malaysian Defense Minister Visits, Discusses Bosnia

### Meets Velayati

*LD0405111593 Tehran IRNA in English 1039 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, (IRNA)—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and visiting Malaysian Minister of Defence Mohamed Najib bin Tun underlined the need for lifting sanctions against Bosnia- Herzegovina here Wednesday.

Pointing to the recent visit on the Malaysian prime minister to Tehran, Mohamed Najib expressed hope that the new round of Tehran- Kuala Lumpur cooperation would be constructive in developing bilateral friendly ties.

The two sides also exchanged views on the latest international developments.

In a separate meeting today, a written message from Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah was submitted to Velayati by Kuwaiti Ambassador to Iran Fawzi 'Abd-al 'Aziz al-Jasim.

The Kuwaiti diplomat said that exchange of visits between officials of the two countries would further consolidate mutual relations. Regional developments were also discussed between the two officials.

### Received by President

*LD0405120493 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani received Malaysian Defense Minister Mohamed Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak this morning. In the course of their meeting the president stressed the need for expanding cooperation among Muslim countries and expressed the hope that Iran and Malaysia would place their experiences in various fields at each other's disposal and would upgrade the level of bilateral ties by exploiting the possibilities.

The Malaysian defense minister expressed his delight over the agreements reached between the two countries during the visit to our country by the Malaysian prime minister and presented a report on the talks he has held with his Iranian counterpart, Akbar Torkan, adding that the results these talks are very useful for strengthening cooperation between the two Muslim countries.

The Malaysian defense minister also expressed his country's support for the announcement that Esfahan and Kuala Lumpur will be twin cities. Our country's president also welcomed the announcement.

## Further on Visit of Vietnamese Foreign Minister

### Meets With Velayati

*LD0405120893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati today met with his Vietnamese counterpart [Nguyen Manh Cam] and together they reviewed the expansion of bilateral ties and important regional and global issues.

The Vietnamese foreign minister referred to the fact that his country was the first state to congratulate Iran on the victory of the Islamic revolution. He said: In view of the Islamic Republic of Iran's role among the developing countries, we would like to have very good relations with Iran. With regard to Vietnam's economic progress, he said: In the past Vietnam imported agricultural products, but today it exports agricultural products.

Mr. Velayati said: Our people have constantly watched the struggle of the people of Vietnam with interest. And today we are pleased to see that your country has taken great strides in reconstruction.

Our country's foreign minister welcomed the expansion of ties between Vietnam and the Islamic Republic.

At a separate meeting with Agriculture Minister Isa Kalantari, the Vietnamese foreign minister stressed the need to set up a joint commission between the two countries to expand cooperation in the agricultural field. He also asked for cooperation between the two countries in rice farming, farm processing industries including tea, coffee, rubber, fisheries, forest management, and the export and import of agricultural products.

Mr. Kalantari also pointed out that the Islamic Republic is interested in expanding cooperation in these fields.

### Meets With Petroleum Minister

*LD0505132293 Tehran IRNA in English 1252 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, (IRNA)—Hanoi is interested in making use of Iran's experience and expertise in oil industry, the visiting Vietnamese foreign minister, Nguyen Manh Cam, told Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i here Wednesday.

Aqazadeh referring to cooperation among South-South countries welcomed expansion of bilateral cooperation.

He added that Iran is ready to build oil refineries in Vietnam and also undertake exploration and exploitation operations in that country.

Meanwhile, in a separate meeting Aqazadeh and the Ukrainian deputy prime minister discussed bilateral economic and oil cooperation and signing of oil agreements. Both sides expressed hope that bilateral oil cooperation will be finalized during the imminent visit to Tehran of the Ukrainian parliament speaker, Ivan Plyushch.

Plyushch is due in Tehran on May 10 on a 4-day official visit.

### Memorandum of Understanding Signed

*LD0505101593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] A memorandum of understanding on economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation was signed between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Vietnamese Democratic Republic, at a meeting today between the foreign ministers of the two countries.

Under the memorandum of understanding, in which cooperation between Iran and Vietnam has been outlined, the two countries will cooperate in the fields of commerce, oil and gas industries, transport, hygiene, agriculture, fisheries, industries, training of specialist workers, training, building construction, and the allocation of credit for the implementation of joint projects.

### Political, Economic Ties Viewed

*NC0505090793 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 5 May 93*

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Text] In the name of God. Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, who is here at the head of a delegation, conferred with high-level Iranian officials on bilateral political and economic cooperation.

Nguyen Manh Cam's visit to Iran is important, because it is the first visit by a high-level Vietnamese delegation to Tehran after the unification of north and south Vietnam. During the Iranian- Vietnamese meetings, the two sides stressed their eagerness to broaden bilateral relations.

Tehran and Hanoi concur on three aspects of foreign policy: the struggle against imperialism and foreign domination, nonalignment, and both being Third World countries. These three things have brought the two countries closer and fostered a kind of coordination in their foreign policy. Like Iran, Vietnam has been embroiled for many years in a struggle against U.S. imperialism. The U.S. defeat and humiliation at the hands of Vietnam is a turning point in the political history of these countries, after the victory of the Islamic revolution. [sentence as heard].

From the economic standpoint, Iran and Vietnam are considered to be among the countries of the south. In view of their desire to forge economic relations with the north, they stress cooperation in the south. These factors play an important role against international imperialist powers' strategy of bringing countries under their domination.

On the regional level, the strategic location of the two countries is important in strengthening relations. Vietnam is in southeast Asia, where countries have recently made dazzling strides in the technical and technological fields. In the Middle East, Iran is also near the newly independent republics of the former Soviet Union, which are a suitable market for the sale of goods.

As for bilateral relations, since Vietnam is an agricultural country and Iran is agricultural and rich in oil, both can take effective steps by pooling their experience in science and research and commercial exchange to consolidate and strengthen bilateral relations and meet their reciprocal needs.

### Agricultural Cooperation Welcomed

*LD0405135293 Tehran IRNA in English 1241 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] IRNA—The visiting Vietnamese foreign minister, Nguyen Manh Cam, here Tuesday called for formation of joint Tehran-Hanoi economic commission.

He made the remark in a meeting with Agriculture Minister Isa Kalantari who welcomed the proposal.

The Iranian minister also expressed Iran's readiness in agricultural cooperation with Vietnam in the fields of food processing industries, fisheries and forestry.

Neguyen Manh Cam heading a high-ranking delegation arrived here Monday on a three-day visit.

### Va'ezi, Kazakhstani Envoy Discuss Relations

*LD0405180693 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA—Kazakhstan plans to open its embassy in Tehran, Kazakh Deputy Foreign Minister Korma Nagozin said here Tuesday in a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Mahmud Va'ezi.

Nagozin who is here to take part in deputy foreign ministers session of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), called for further expansion of mutual economic, political and cultural ties.

The two sides agreed to boost their collaboration within the framework of ECO and the Caspian Countries Cooperation Council.

Terming as "important" the role of Tehran-Almaty joint economic commission in upgrading bilateral ties, they underlined promotion of infrastructural cooperation in gas, oil and agricultural projects.

### Va'ezi on Dublin Visit; Irish Leaders To Visit

*LD0605110393 Tehran IRNA in English 1044 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA—The Republic of Ireland will expand bilateral cooperation with Iran far from the influence of the big powers, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of Euro-American Affairs Mahmud Va'ezi said here Wednesday. Va'ezi, elaborating on the outcome of his recent four-day official visit to Ireland at the invitation of his Irish counterpart Noel Dorr, said that one of the objectives of his trip was to plan for the forthcoming second joint economic commission due in Dublin.

While in Ireland, Va'ezi exchanged views with Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds, Ministers of Defence David Andrews, Trade and Tourism Charlie McCreevy and, Employment and Enterprise Ruairi Quinn on ways to promote bilateral ties.

He pointed out that Tehran-Dublin trade exchange was dlrs. 30 million last year and said he convinced the Irish officials to create a balance in economic ties. Iran's non-oil exports to Ireland would increase in this respect, he added. The two countries would increase cooperation in such areas as fisheries, fishing, navigation as well as in educational, technological and aviation fields, he said. Va'ezi further noted that Ireland was an active member of the European Community (EC) which could help resumption of export of Iranian goods to the EC. Iran would open an exclusive exhibition of its products in Dublin, he added.

Va'ezi referred to the fact that Iran and Ireland shared identical views on such international issues as Bosnia-Herzegovina, Central Asia and the Persian Gulf region. He also declared that the Irish prime minister, parliament speaker, ministers of employment and enterprise and defence would visit Iran this year.

### * Iranians Arrested for Illegal Entry

*93LA0033F London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 2*

[Text] To prevent the illegal entry of Iranians, the Government of Kuwait is employing new security measures. Last week Kuwaiti agents arrested five Iranians who had entered that country by sea and were hiding in residential areas.

The Kuwaiti police announced: With the cooperation of security agents from that country, the borders of this emirate will be better controlled and numerous police teams have been mobilized to arrest Iranians who enter that country unseen by agents. BBC Radio reports that several residential areas where Iranians are said to be hiding after coming into Kuwait are under 24-hour watch and searches of homes, commercial, and administrative centers and stores have begun in order to arrest the Iranians. The Kuwaiti Government, which is sensitive about the presence of Iranian citizens in that country because of its experiences in the past with Iranian saboteurs, is worried that people who come into that country illegally will engage in sabotage and terrorism.

### IRNA on Britain's 'Willingness To Improve Ties'

*LD0505190793 Tehran IRNA in English 1813 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] London, May 5, IRNA—After three months of strained relations with Iran, the British Government has signalled its willingness to improve ties based upon resolving disputes between the two countries.

The indications came during a meeting Wednesday between Foreign Office Minister Douglas Hogg and Iran's charge d'affaires, Gholamreza Ansari, who paid a call to deliver a letter from Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that the talks lasted 75 minutes and took place in an atmosphere described as "business-like." Bilateral and regional issues, including security in the Persian Gulf, were said to have been discussed.

The letter addressed to Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, was the latest in a recent exchange of correspondence between the two ministers, and is understood to cover such areas of mutual interest as Bosnia and the Middle East peace process.

The exchange of letters started prior to a souring of relations which started with a sudden announcement by the British Government in February that it was taking a confrontational stand against Iran to repudiate the fatwa [death sentence] on life of apostate author, Salman Rushdie.

The issue was said to have again been raised in Wednesday's talks and where again the Iranian charge d'affaires clarified that Rushdie's blasphemy was a matter concerning the whole of the Islamic world and not just Tehran.

Iran's deputy foreign minister for Euro-American affairs, Mahmud Va'ezi has also said there had been enough experience with "British attitude and policy of ignorance" and as long as the UK refused to respect Islamic values, there could be no interest in broader ties.

Britain's original provocative stand over Rushdie led Iran to sever relations in 1989. Ties were not restored for two years, when it was assumed London accepted the Islamic ruling on Rushdie was a religious not a political matter.

The Indian born who authored the highly sacrilegious novel "The Satanic Verses" was sentenced to death according to Islamic laws against apostasy by the father of the Islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni on 14 February 1989, following shedding of Muslim blood in India and Pakistan by the satanic book.

Since refueling the issue, British officials have tried to keep trade matters separate from what they see as an essentially political dispute. But so far attempts have failed to stop the visit of two large delegations being cancelled by Iran.

### Velayati Appeals for ICO Assistance on Bosnia

*LD0505174093 Tehran IRNA in English 1653 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today urged the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] contact group to spare no efforts to stop Serb attacks against Muslims and open a safe corridor through which aid may be rushed to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In a letter to his Pakistani counterpart, Velayati said Muslims in Bosnia are being slaughtered and are suffering hunger in eastern Bosnia while the United Nations forces do not send provisions. He said the situation persists despite the frequent peace talks for ending the bloodshed in that part of the world. Pakistan's foreign minister heads the contact group of the Islamic Conference Organization for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

### * Rafsanjani: U.S. Will Make Us More Determined

*93LA0033C London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 2*

[Text] During a speech made last week while on a trip to Kerman, Hashemi-Rafsanjani again declared his readiness to take part in the elections for president of the republic, to be held next June 15.

Rafsanjani said: It is naive to think that the people of Iran support terrorism, with the public support they have. He added: The regime of the Islamic Republic is very beloved among Iranians and this is why it has stood on its feet!

Rafsanjani emphasized that increased American pressure on Iran makes this country stronger.

Reuter, which cabled Rafsanjani's remarks, quoted him as saying: Those in the White House and elsewhere who think that they can make the people lose hope in their government with the commotion they have made about the Islamic Republic are mistaken. Rafsanjani, who was actually responding to the American Secretary of State Warren Christopher's accusation that the Government of Iran supports terrorists and breaks laws, added: The Americans, who are actually using a double standard, gave the Government of Algeria a green light to nullify that country's elections.

### * Pilgrims Warned Against Political Activities

*93LA0033L London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 1*

[Text] The Saudi Arabian Ministry of the Interior warned pilgrims to Mecca not to bring political books to that country promoting special ideologies. The statement from the Saudi Arabian Ministry of the Interior emphasized: Some brothers who come to Saudi Arabia from foreign countries to fulfill their religious obligation either deliberately or by chance bring with them political and propaganda books and pictures and pamphlets that promote various political ideas and leanings.

The statement adds: The distribution of these books, pamphlets and pictures is not in accordance with the temperament, taste and desire of many pilgrims, and it makes them unhappy. Moreover, doing such things undermines the aims of the pilgrimage to the House of God. Therefore, the entry of such publications into Saudi Arabia will be prevented.

In this statement the government of Saudi Arabia expressed the hope that no one would disturb the freedom and peace of the pilgrims who come to that country to visit the House of God and that there would be no kind of disturbance, violence or problem for them from groups or private individuals.

In this statement the government of Saudi Arabia is referring to the Islamic Republic of Iran, which in past years has created insecurity by staging demonstrations and creating disturbances during the Haj rites. Hundreds of people lost their lives in those incidents.

In the year 1987 during the staging of demonstrations in Mecca, which was orchestrated by the Islamic regime, there were clashes between Saudi officials and revolutionary guards who had gone there in pilgrim's garb in which 400 Iranians and several Saudi agents were killed. After that "bloody Friday" relations were cut between the two governments. For several years no pilgrims went to Mecca from Iran, until in the year 1989, after Khomeini's death, there was a new agreement between the two governments for pilgrimages by Iranians.

## Further Report on Presidential, Majles Polls

### Presidential Election Applications Received

*LD0405133293 Tehran IRNA in English 1318 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA—With one day to the deadline to submit applications to run in June presidential elections, the Interior Ministry has received 55 applications, it was announced here Tuesday. According to the presidential elections law, the Guardians Council supervises all stages of the elections. All applications will be forwarded to the Council on Wednesday where the eligibility of the candidates will be reviewed. The Council will inform the Interior Ministry of its decision within five days, the period can be extended for another five days, if deemed necessary.

The Ministry is to make public list of the eligible candidates two days after it has received it from the Guardians Council.

### 128 Candidates Apply

*LD0505182593 Tehran IRNA in English 1756 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA—With a five day deadline expiring tonight some 128 persons have applied for running the sixth presidential elections due to be held on July 11.

The Council of Guardians is to scrutinize the qualifications of the applicants for a five day period which if necessary will be prolonged for another five days.

The council will then formally announce the names of those it considers qualified to run for the presidency to the Interior Ministry's electoral headquarters for being made public through mass media.

Among prominent candidates is the present incumbent President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, a former minister, the chancellor of a prestigious university and a Majles deputy, an informed source told IRNA.

The source said he was unaware of some personalities mentioned by names in some Tehran dailies as presidential candidates.

## Majles, Presidential Polls Simultaneous

*LD0605102793 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] The Interior Ministry issued a statement today announcing the list of constituencies in which by-elections for the fourth term of the Majles will be held and asking those aspiring for membership of the Majles in those constituencies to go to governorates or district offices in the constituencies between Wednesday 22 and Tuesday 28 Ordibehesht [12 to 18 May] to register. The Interior Ministry announced the list of constituencies as follows:

'Ali Gudarz, Razan, Khorramshahr, Piranshahr and Sardasht, Natanz, Fasa, Gonbad-e Kavus, Ramiyan, Qa'emshahr and Savadkuh, Moghan, and the constituency for the Zoroastrian minority.

According to the statement the by-elections for the fourth term of the Majles will be held on Friday 21 Khordad [11 June], simultaneous with the nationwide presidential election.

## Khamene'i on Political, Cultural Independence

*LD0505124293 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1002 GMT 5 May 93*

[Speech by Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i to university lecturers, school teachers, students, and workers on 5 May, on the occasion of Teacher's Week and Labor Day, place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I would like to welcome all the brothers and sisters. [passage omitted]

To a nation, having independence is highly significant. An independent nation means a nation free from the American, British, or sometimes Russian masters and their ilk, who used to come and interfere in this nation's destiny. Such masters would only allow things to go ahead if it served their own interests; and they would throw away other things. This is the fate of those nations that are deprived of independence. You understand which countries I mean. I do not have to name them. You can see that these countries are led by some individuals, who are awaiting orders, for instance, from America. Well, what is done in a country for a nation, whose head or ruling circle are waiting to take orders from America? It is obvious that only decisions will be taken to implement tasks which serve the U.S. interests. These include selling, buying, advertising, promotion and demotion, appointment and sacking and any other work which would serve interests of the master. Nothing will be done to serve the interests of the people. This is the tragedy of a nation being deprived of independence. This was the fate of this nation during the era of the former regime.

The biggest problem facing this country during the era of the former regime was its dependence. The sinister Pahlavi regime was dependent on Britain at first and on America at a later stage. The Americans used to decide who should be promoted to high positions to become the prime minister, the director of the oil company or other top posts. [passage omitted].

There are three different types of independence. They follow each other. The first is difficult to attain, the second is more difficult and the third is the most difficult. It is not easy to gain independence. The first step is to gain political independence. Our nation overcame the first difficult phase and gained its political independence. What is meant by political independence? It means today in this country the responsible officials, including the government, the Majles, the judicial branch and other servants of you, the people, are not taking orders from any foreign power. Their only obligation is to perform their divine duty. This is the meaning of independence.

Even if the entire world were to unite, that is, the United States, Britain, Europe, the East and the West—I mean when there were two superpowers in the world—if they were to join hands in the past or today, they would not be able to push this nation an inch in a direction that might undermine its interests. This country's authorities, the responsible officials and the servants of this nation will never allow such moves [shouts of approval from the audience] [Audience chants: God is Great; Khamene'i is the Leader; Death to the arrogant counterrevolutionaries; Death to Saddam's hypocrites; Death to Israel].

This is political independence. Political independence means that those who are ruling over this country today were chosen by the people. In a few weeks time we have the presidential elections. The people will look for and elect the face they like, trust and see fit for implementing works in the country. It is the people who elect. Of course, a babbler continues babbling. He even babbles to God. [passage omitted].

Those who are sick within are oblivious of what there is in the country. Well, they do see the crowds of people, they do see the people's enthusiasm, they do see the people's affection for the officials and they do see the sincerity of the country's officials. They see all that. They see that it is the people who have indeed elected and will elect the country's officials. They see all that with their eyes. But, they carry on with their idle talk. They denounce the elections; they denounce the people; they denounce the officials. They are not worthy of attention. They should be ignored. As I have said already, the reality is what is witnessed by the people themselves. Praise be to God, this nation has managed to attain political independence through its strength. Gentlemen! Sisters! Brothers! Politically, our country today is an independent country. It is a country that is standing on its own feet. I am not the only person who has made this remark. I have gone on many tours. I have met heads of many states; dozens of heads of state around the world have sat and conferred with me, throughout the presidential period and afterward. Everyone accepts that. Everyone has made the same remark. Everyone perceives that. There was a time when the East and the West collaborated to turn this country toward a certain path. For example, suppose we were all defending a certain right. They would all collaborate to prevent us from defending that right. But they have failed. Today they are all collaborating so as to rob the Palestinians of their right. We have held our ground expressing our opposition. They have become enraged at Iran's opposition. They have expressed that [rage] in closed sessions, open sessions, and through their propaganda apparatus. They have threatened us. Let them do it! We do what we perceive to be right; we do what is our duty and what we know is expected of us by the Almighty God. That is what we do, and that is the path we take.

No one can influence the Iranian nation, the Iranian Government, the system of the Islamic Republic and those who serve you people. This is political independence and we have attained it.

What is even more difficult is economic independence. Economic independence means that the nation and the country should stand on their own feet in their economic efforts, without relying on anyone. It does not mean that a nation which enjoys economic independence should not trade with anyone else in the world. No sir! Trade does not mean weakness. Buying and selling something, engaging in trade and holding commercial talks does not imply weakness. But, it must be done in a way to enable a nation to provide its basic needs by itself. That is one thing.

Second, it must carry some weight in the world economic equations and exchanges; a weight that may not be written off easily; one that may not be put down easily; one that may not be put under pressure and dictated to. Today, if countries that have progressive economies and some power—and unfortunately it is these very countries which are mostly the world's arrogant powers and colonialists—establish trade and cooperation with a country, they will seek to impose their will on that country. For a country to have an independent economy, that country's needs must be met domestically. That country's factories must all operate. That country's workers must work conscientiously and deem it their human and religious obligation. A worker is not only the person who works in a factory, but anyone who is engaged in a useful task in the country. A writer, a good artist, a teacher, an inventor and a reseacher are all workers. To be a worker is an honor. [passage omitted elaborating on the importance of work]

Well, have we reached economic independence or not? I say to you that this is as I have already said the more difficult of the two [types of independence] We must endeavor. Of course today we could claim to be economically independent, but there are some conditions. There are a number of conditions: First, that any individual should do his job to the best of his ability. [passage omitted]

The second proviso is for those who have money and resources not to spend them for their personal use. [passage omitted]

We are not saying do not consider yourselves at all; but you should consider your country too. Do not make harmful investments. Do not make useless investments. Do not invest in any kind of manufacturing that does not advance the country. That is one point. Another is that investors, those who have money and resources, should have a religious conscience and a sense of responsibility.

Another proviso is that there should be initiative in the workplace. I say that those factories in our country—be it those in government hands, or those in the hands of the people; a great number of manufacturing units are in the hands of and belong to the people themselves—some of the money from them should be spent on research, for advancement, to improve the quality of goods. Why should we sit around while others in Europe or other parts of the world carry out research and learn from them? Are we inferior to them? Do we understand less than they do? [passage omitted]

The country's scientific machinery should also come to the aid of the country's economy. Scholars at universities should work for the government. The government should rely on scholars and theologians in the universities and those who study there. [passage omitted]

We see today that, thank God, economic projects, as it was said here, are in progress in the country by the government and the country's officials. Those economic projects, as the officials involved say, God willing, will bear sweet fruit in the future. We hope that future comes sooner. What I would like to say is that the oppressed, deprived, poor and low-income classes, those whose private lives are immediately affected by rising prices, should be protected. We say this so that officials in charge of the economy and the various sectors of the economy and those who are in charge of work and production and so forth think about these matters, and that the vulnerable classes, as they are called, or the oppressed and the deprived and the low-income classes are somehow given help, so that we can, God willing, make the economy flourish, so that this nation can make the economy flourish. That would be economic independence.

I say to you, our workers were effective in the survival of this revolution and this country. Do you know how much effort was spent so that our factories would go on strike. [passage omitted]

If they could they would do it now, too. Because they know that the Islamic Republic has stood up to America and the enemy. To bring her to her knees they are still trying to disrupt the country's economic programs. If the West, America, our enemies, the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and so on and so forth could bring our factories to a halt it would be a great blow. That is why they are trying to deal that blow. Who is standing up to them? It is our Muslim and conscientious workers. It has been so since the outset of the revolution, it is so now, and in the future our workers will, God willing, drive away the infidels who try to sabotage our work. [Crowd chants: God is great, Khamene'i is the leader, death to counterrevolution, death to America, death to Britain, death to Israel]

The third, which is the most difficult, is cultural independence. It is very difficult. It entails a great deal of hardships. The fight for cultural independence is the most difficult. I said here once that they are ambushing us culturally. That is right. God knows it is true. Some people do not understand. They cannot see the whole scene. He who sees and realizes what the enemy is doing realizes that it is an ambush; and what an ambush, from various sides. [passage omitted]

If the enemy enters our country, not physically, but over news waves, his radios, words, and instills in the people the idea that it is not good to fight, that it would be to no avail to defend Islam, that it would be useless to resist the enemy, that the more you resist and fight the more you stand to lose, if the enemy were able to instill those ideas into the minds of the people, would there be any fight in Iran against the enemies of Islam? Of course not.

There are many Muslims in the world who are not at war with America and the enemies of Islam. There are many nations who read the Koran, pray and worship, but do not fight the enemies of Islam; they even befriend them. Why? Because they do not realize that they must fight the enemies of Islam. If the enemy of Islam were able to turn the Iranian nation into one which does not believe in fighting, has no hope of victory, does not abstain from lust and materialism, if he could turn our nation into such a one he would be triumphant. That is where cultural war becomes an absolute necessity.

They are doing that now, gentlemen. The enemy is working on various fronts. One is our youth in the schools. Our dear youth, our pure boys and girls are the offspring of this nation. Their hearts, bodies and minds are pure. With all sorts of evil, lusty provocations, by distributing exciting, erotic photographs, films, videos, tapes and all sorts of evil and baseness, they arouse the sensual feelings of these youngsters, these adolescents, these pure youth, and draw them toward corruption. See what a great crime this is. That is one of the things they are doing.

Some people thought that our attack on western cultural invasion involves, for example, if a person has not observed correct Islamic dress code on the street. No, thank God, the people are observing the Islamic dress code, except for a very few. It is not these issues.

That which is on the street is secondary. The main issue is what occurs indoors, which starts from schools and gatherings of youth, and that is where the enemies are busy. That which is not obvious, that which is hidden, that is where the danger lies. Our youth threw away all lust, cast aside comfort and pleasure, went to the battlefield and were able to bring the enemy to his knees. Now the enemy is wreaking his revenge on our youth. What is his revenge? It is to keep our youth busy with pleasure and lust. They print photographs, spend money, publish them free for the youth. They produce videos, exciting, erotic films and give them free to all and sundry so that they could watch them. Of course, some people make some money this way. But those who invest in it do not do so for the money. If they did they could distribute this material everywhere in other countries and make money. Here they want to ruin and destroy the young generation. That is one type of invasion.

Now, between us and God, if the country's judiciary catches anyone who is propagating such corruption what punishment would be the most apt? What is the punishment for a person who teaches corruption and licentiousness to thousands of pure youths of this country, our pure and clean youth, our innocent children? In my opinion they should be punished most severely. [Crowd chants God is great; Khamene'i is the leader; death to America; death to counterrevolutionaries; death to Britain; death to hypocrites; death to Israel] O my brothers and sisters, the objective of the cultural onslaught is to change the people's attitudes, to divert them from the path of Islam and to make them despondent with the struggle.

That gentleman who wrote: The Iranian nation has lost this world and the next world—he himself has lost this world and the next world, according to what we are seeing. They write and publish such material. He has said: The Muslims of the world, including the Iranian nation, have lost this world and the next world. Why? Just because they have fought against America for instance. This is what he means. Is this what is meant by losing this world and the next world? Every one sees his own reflection in the still water.

Can such a title be attributed to the Iranian nation, who managed to liberate itself from the abjection of dependence and freed itself from the shame of tolerating the sinister puppet regime of Pahlavi, which had links with America? Has this nation lost both worlds for showing so much courage in the world and for proudly entering the path of freedom? Can our youths, our committed families, these men and women who have lost their hearts to religion and have fallen in love with God's path, be classified as those who have lost both worlds? They themselves, the person who has written the above, have truly lost both worlds. Their world is the world of abjection, and after life they shall face divine wrath. No doubt about it.

Why do they make such remarks about the people and broadcast it? Why do they broadcast it? They do so to alarm the people and to undermine the people's faith. Who is behind it all? The same enemy whose interests are threatened by our economic independence. This is the same enemy who has suffered, thanks to our political and cultural independence.

The persons who made such remarks are enemy agents. What they have done is part of the cultural onslaught, It is a confrontation with the Iranian nation. The enemy is launching this onslaught and we are not the only target. They oppose Islam and they target their hostility against Islam. We have seen it in different parts of the world. So what is our duty vis-a-vis this onslaught?

I am saying the teachers, the academic people, the students and all those involved with cultural affairs of the state, who are the focal point, they are all dutybound to undertake a lengthy jihad. Their duty is to prepare for a long struggle. These days are chosen to honor the teachers. But no honor will be greater than telling the teachers, as I am telling them, that they are shouldering the heaviest burden of responsibility. No one else can shoulder such a burden. The easier tasks were performed by others. Today is the day that the country's teachers should undertake the heavy task. What is that task? It is the task of making healthy and committed Islamic youth. That is, the youths who are healthy in mind and belief, capable of turning the wheels of the state with their strong will and muscles. This is the biggest task and I hope almighty God would grant you, the teachers, the workers, and the students, success in performing this task.

May the imam's soul be happy with you; and may the holy heart of the lord of the age be happy with you. May God's peace and mercy be upon you all.

## Maneuvers Aim Regional Security, Not Expansion

*LD0605101393 Tehran IRNA in English 0955 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA—An English daily here Thursday wrote that the recent Victory-4 maneuver in the Persian Gulf did not pursue an expansionist policy but rather aimed at demonstrating Iran's ability to maintain security in this sensitive part of the world. In its editorial 'TEHRAN TIMES' further reiterated that coutries in the Persian Gulf region have to accept the fact that foreign forces can never safeguard their security and national interests.

"In pursuit of its policy of peaceful co-existence with its neighbors, the Islamic Republic of Iran had always been wanting to establish cooperation among the regional countries." the article noted. Therefore, it added, the recent maneuver was undertaken for the purpose of promoting the idea that regional security could be maintained through joint action on the part of all the littoral states in the Persian Gulf.

It was in support of this policy that the commander of the Iranian naval forces declared that Iran would be ready to conduct joint maneuvers with its neighbors in the Persian Gulf and that there had been negotiations in preparation for such a maneuver.

The daily also noted that the maneuver, undertaken jointly by the navy and naval forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps, was conducted at a time when the U.S. was maintaining a strong military force in the Persian Gulf.

It commented that presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf had so far intensified tension rather than bringing stability in this part of the world. "Thus there remains no other solution but the creation of a joint scheme of security with the participation of all countries in the Persian Gulf region," it concluded.

## Company Designs, Builds 4 New Automobiles

*LD0405173893 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA—An Iranian firm has succeeded in designing and producing four new automobiles using the parts from two Iranian-manufactured cars, Peykan and Renault-5.

"These automobiles have been designed by our engineering and designing division and approved by the Ministry of Heavy Industries," 'Abbas Maleki, the managing director of Radiator Iran said in a press conference here today.

Three of the newly designed automobiles "Sima", "Saba" and "Sarv", have the same parts as Peykan while the fourth one "Sahar" is modelled on Renault-5.

Maleki added that the new models all conform to international standards and are quite economical. Sima has successfully passed the road tests and has been evaluated and approved by an automobile testing company outside Iran.

"Sima which uses parts from Peykan-1600 was tested along with a Peykan 1600. Under similar conditions, Sima used 15 to 20 percent less fuel and was capable of achieving a speed of 95 kilometers per hour while Peykan lagged behind at 80 kilometers per hour. The 15-kilometer gap was maintained at higher speeds," he pointed.

Saba, which is modelled on Peykan station wagon, with a small modification in the engine, has got 9 horse powers more than Peykan.

Sarv, emphasized Maleki, is the most beautiful model of the new automobiles and uses a Renault-5 body. Saipa Company, the makers of Renault cars, has so far not commented on the modifications.

Radiator Iran is capable of mass producing 10,000 to 20,000, automobiles that, without government subsidy, would sell 2 to 2.5 million rials more than the price of Peykan.

The models have been on exhibit in the first international traffic control and auto show held in Tehran recently.

## * Report on Loss of Currency Transfer Receipts

*93LA0033K London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 12*

[Text] Several weeks ago when Mohsen Nurbakhsh announced that the Islamic Republic did not have accounts or accurate statistics on all foreign exchange transfers, everyone thought this meant that various government and semigovernment organizations were engaging in foreign transactions and therefore foreign exchange transfers, without the authorization or even the knowledge of the Central Bank, and without reporting what they were doing to the Central Bank. This is only part of the truth, however, which in the Islamic Republic is not that astonishing.

The other part, which is quite astonishing, is that at the Central Bank foreign exchange transfer receipts, except for those that have to be given to customers, mysteriously disappear. How and why? The sources, which provided this information to KEYHAN, were unable to answer this question. It must be added, however, that bank workers, like the workers in all the other government organizations, have absolutely no interest in seeing the work at their institutions done properly and according to regulations.

## * Enforcement Forces Arrest Municipal Officials

*93LA0033J London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 2*

[Text] In a major clash between municipal officials and members of the police forces over the cutting of trees in the Tavbala area, police agents arrested the municipal officials and took them to the police station. Several days ago information was given to the Shemiranat police station that municipal officials of Precinct 4 had gone to Tavbala with 50 trucks to cut down trees in part of Shamiranat and had begun cutting down the trees in people's gardens. Police officials obtained a judicial order and went to Tavbala and tried to stop what the municipal officials were doing. There was a verbal dispute and a struggle between the two sides and as a result police personnel took the municipal workers to the police station in handcuffs.

Recently there was a scuffle between the revolutionary guards and members of the mobilization over the evacuation of a building in north Tehran, which led to police intervention.

## * Rumor of Bank Melli's Involvement in Oil Sale

*93LA0033I London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 12*

[Text] On the day Mohsen Nurbakhsh and Mohammad Hoseyn 'Adeli, the minister of economic and financial affairs and the chief of the Central Bank of Iran, respectively, (both of them technocrat "brains" on the cabinet of Rafsanjani, who calls himself the only "political" person in the government), said that the government would intervene seriously in the foreign exchange market so that the nation's monetary train would not be derailed, the experts simply responded to this boast with smiles.

The smiles have now changed to guffaws and laughter, because instead of the Central Bank pulling the foreign exchange behind it as the organizer of the nation's monetary apparatus, it is the foreign exchange market that has pushed the Central Bank this way and that. In this regard, Zarifi said: If the donkey won't go to the load, you have to take the load to the donkey. Despite this, the change of direction that Sheikh and Mosalah al-Din Sa'di advises does not always undo the tangled operations of the aforementioned financial institution.

In order for the Central Bank to effectively intervene in the foreign exchange market, first it must itself have a sufficient amount of foreign exchange. But from where? It is the answer to this question that has become a strong rumor in Tehran these days. Like other rumors, it may be denied at first, but it will be no less true on that account. A proverb has been circulating in Iran for this reason that says don't believe a rumor unless the government denies it!

Yes, the rumor is that the Central Bank, after the Foundation for the Oppressed and War Veterans, has received authorization from the government to sell oil abroad directly. The sale of oil is aimed mainly at achieving two objectives: To repay foreign debts, which have come due and which the Central Bank cannot pay, and to procure foreign exchange so that it can get into the foreign exchange market as its organizer.

It is not yet clear to whom the Central Bank will sell oil and at what price, but if it wants to sell it at below the price set by OPEC, the Islamic Republic will have problems with OPEC. It is said in Tehran that this is one of the reasons Gholamreza Aqazadeh opposes the sale of oil by the Central Bank.

## * Unemployment Rate Highest in Kermanshah

*93LA0033H London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 4*

[Text] In an interview with a correspondent from the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, Mir' Arab, Kermanshah Province general manager of labor and social affairs, said that based on official census and housing statistics for the year 1370 [21 Mar 1991-20 Mar 1992], this province is faced with a 21.5-percent-unemployment growth rate, and it leads the country in this respect.

Mir' Arab added that of the active population of 1.3 million in the province of Kermanshah, more than 270,000 are unemployed. He believes that two factors play the basic role in increasing the number of unemployed people in the province: "The first is the failure to invest in the production and industrial sector, which was imposed on the province due to wartime conditions, and the second is that the existing production and industrial units were subjected to bomb and missile attacks."

The newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAM quotes economic experts as saying that the unification of the foreign exchange rate and the failure to create new employment opportunities and the transition from the era of "economic adjustment" in the province of Kermanshah will inflict basic damage on the vulnerable class and the number of unemployed people will become much larger.

## * Tehran Phone Line Fee Increased Fiftyfold

*93LA0033G London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 2*

[Text] Scandalous telephone bill errors have exasperated Tehran residents. Calculations of telephone company bills are usually to the advantage of the telephone company and to the disadvantage of customers. Complaining, running around, and following up by the people in this regard never get anywhere. The telephone bills of many customers who never make contact outside the country include charges for calls outside Iran. For some time the Islamic Republic Communications Company has charged a fee for the use of its 118 information number, and some officials say that it keeps people on the line longer in order to collect more money. In addition to these things, sometimes telephone bills go to the wrong addresses.

People with telephones in the capital usually work for some time to get a connection, and then are finally obliged to deliver their messages to friends and family via other means.

When they do make a connection in Tehran, they have to wait for repeated busy signals, long silences, terrifying sounds, lines collapsing on each other, one telephone number not being able to connect to another, and other malfunctions in the telephone communications system.

In a report on Tehran problems and issues prepared by KEYHAN reporters, customers are quoted as saying: These days phone line fees in the capital have increased fiftyfold and the surcharge for each additional three minutes has risen to 8 rials. Telephone customers are very unhappy about the fact that a city the size of Tehran does not have a telephone book.

Applicants for telephones are also annoyed with the telephone company. They say that although due to the nature of their professions they cannot do their work without telephones, a long time passes after they pay the hookup fee before the telephones are installed. The telephone company itself installs the wiring, provides the telephone and determines the number, but by the time this telephone goes into operation their lives will be over.

Other disturbing issues are exceptions and the use of influence in the issuance of telephones. If several people apply for telephones at the same time in the same area, they give telephones to some of them months sooner than to others.

A telephone expert says that the reason for these malfunctions is the failure to adhere to standards, installation and start-up, and adds that in the last year or two hundreds of various low-capacity and high-capacity systems in the nation's transfer network have been stopped because of power outages and lightning sometimes has also melted expensive equipment and telephone units.

According to an insider in the telephone company, only about 20 in 100 attempts to connect to a telephone number succeed, yet at least 50 or more should succeed in a normal network.

## * KEYHAN Chides HAMSHAHRI's on Freedom

*93LA0033E London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 2*

[Text] Several days ago the newspaper KEYHAN of Tehran attacked the newspaper HAMSHAHRI, a publication of the municipality of Tehran, in harsh tones for encouraging the Islamic Republic regime to grant more freedoms by giving the people the opportunity to take part in social affairs. KEYHAN objected that with all these freedoms, how could anyone have the nerve to imagine that the meaning of freedom and public participation in our society has not yet been determined and realized!

KEYHAN called the statement in HAMSHAHRI's editorial, "Now the limits and the necessary and sound space for public activity and participation must be determined and a desirable meaning for social freedom must be obtained," "intellectual sophistry," and noted: The publication HAMSHAHRI has turned out to be a hysterical intellectual propagandist and a pretender to human moderation. It is seeking social participation in the Western sense and it is denying the existence of freedoms and social participation in Iran's society.

KEYHAN then praised the freedoms that the Islamic government has given the people since the revolution to participate in their own destiny, and wrote: There are personal models and criteria for public participation and for achieving the real meaning of freedom in Islamic thought and culture, and since the triumph of the revolution these criteria have gradually been achieved, and if the mayor of Tehran's newspaper sees shortcomings in these areas and speaks harshly about the need to realize them, it means that HAMSHAHRI's intent is to establish liberal freedoms in Iran.

## * Jalalledin Farsi's Trial To Begin in May

*93LA0033B London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 pp 1, 11*

[Text] It was announced in Tehran that the trial of Jalalledin Farsi, which was to have begun last year on 1 Esfand [20 Feb 1993] at the Karaj Penal Court, will begin on 5 Khordad [26 May] in the Tehran Penal Court. Jalalledin Farsi, a candidate in the first elections for president of the Islamic Republic and former Majles deputy, is accused of killing Reza Rezakhani with his hunting rifle in the Taleqan area in the month of Mehr [23 Sep-22 Oct] last year after a verbal dispute.

At dawn on 1 Esfand last year the Karaj Penal Court convened, attended by many spectators, but instead of the presiding justice calling the court into session and the prosecutor reading the indictment he had prepared, it was announced that the case had been moved to Tehran. Farsi did not attend that session.

Judicial experts said that the transfer of the case from Karaj to Tehran in the way that it took place is at variance with judicial procedures. Under Article 205 of the Penal Trial Guidelines, "transferring a penal suit from one court to another must be done with authorization from the Supreme Court, and the request for transfer must either be done by the court that is hearing the case or by the trial's public prosecutor."

After being referred to the Tehran Penal Court and heard once at Penal Court 145, bail for Jalalledin Farsi's murder case was set by the presiding judge at 80 million rials. Upon submitting this bail Farsi was released from prison. Judicial experts say that this "redemption order" was also at variance with judicial procedures.

Correspondents from the newspaper SALAM who had been sent to ask the chief justice questions about the ins and outs of the matter, were unable to get an answer. An example of the questions is this:

1. In view of the fact that it is not judicial procedure to release a first-degree murder defendant on bail, why was Jalalledin Farsi released on 8-million-tomans bail? The

Penal Trial Guidelines Law states clearly that detention is authorized in the following cases:

One - For felonies, invariably.

Two - For those being prosecuted for murder a detention order will be issued and it will continue until the verdict is issued.

Since the law mentioned is still in force, the conversion of Jalalledin Farsi's detention order to release on bail was declared a violation of the law and judicial procedure.

### Letter From Murder Victim's Spouse

On the other hand, the murder victim's spouse, in a letter to Mohammad Yazdi, chief of the judiciary, writes: Jalalledin Farsi killed my husband, left a family without a provider, left my children without a father, left me destitute, (but) one day before the trial suddenly the case was moved from Karaj to Tehran. Mr. chief justice, the Penal Court wanted to ignore first-degree murder and release the murderer on bail. How long will this indifference to the law continue? Stop the flight of a murderer. The bail should be proportionate to the crime.

### Chief of Judiciary's Remarks

In a meeting with the nation's judicial officials, Mohammad Yazdi, chief of the judicial power, said: At this "sensitive stage" Ministry of Justice judges must act responsibly and be mindful of their critical responsibilities. I am seriously and decisively asking the honorable judges to be more resolute than before in the service of the government and the people, and, while being sufficiently concerned about speed, care, and observation of the law, to be models of support for oppressed people and the deprived classes and to strive with all their being to enforce the law and to achieve rights and justice in the service of the people. Yazdi added: We have been severely tested and we must realize that we are the guardians of the honor and dignity of Islam.

## * Top Officials Implicated in Bakhtiar Murder

*93LA0033A London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Apr 93 p 1*

[Text] Jean Louis Bruguieres, the investigating judge for international terrorism who has heard the cases of the murder of Shahpour Bakhtiar and 'Abdol-Rahman Borumand, said that international arrest warrants will soon be issued against two more high-ranking officials of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He did not name anyone in this connection. He said that the Bakhtiar and Borumand murder cases are related.

The Iran National Resistance Front, which gave us this report in a press statement, adds that the Shahpour Bakhtiar murder case is in the final phases of its investigation and that "in the next two or three months" the court will convene to try the accused. Jean Louis Bruguieres told officials of the Resistance Front that in the history of international terrorism this is the first court in which, on the basis of "incontrovertible evidence," a government is being tried on charges of terrorism.

Judge Bruguieres said that already two people named Sarhadi and Vakili-Rad are in prison in France in connection with the Bakhtiar murder case, along with two others named 'Ali Kemali and Mahmud Sajadian in connection with the Kazem Rajavi murder case. He added that the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has heavily pressured the Foreign Ministry to free the prisoners.

Bruguieres recently expressed concern that there are again signs of the danger of terrorism in France. After this case is complete he will resign as judge and will probably accept the responsibility for the organization to combat international terrorism, which the new French government intends to form.

# Nepal

## Ministerial-Level Delegation Departs for Tibet

*BK0505113293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1021 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Kathmandu, May 5 (AFP)—A ministerial-level delegation left here Wednesday for Lhasa to try to convince China to open more routes between Nepal and Tibet to promote trade and tourism.

The four-member delegation was led by Nepalese Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation Ram Hari Joshi on its five-day visit.

A senior official of the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation told AFP the Nepalese delegation would be seeking to open more trans-Himalayan passes to help develop overland tourism and trade with Tibet.

The official said China had recently opened the Kodari pass, 114 kilometres (71 miles) northeast of Kathmandu, and [words indistinct] was being carried through the Kodari highway.

"Recently, interior parts of Nepal closer to Tibet were opened up for tourism including Mustang, a remote district closed for foreigners until last year," he said.

"China is operating direct air services between Lhasa and Kathmandu by aircraft like Boeing 707 twice a week via the trans- Himalayan flight route," the official added.

The official said the main purpose of the visit was "to enhance the traditional friendship between Nepal and China and further promote friendly cooperation in the fields of tourism and trade."

"There is an immense possibility of promoting mountain and culture tourism between Nepal and Tibet," he said.

"As Kodari is the only pass open for tourism packages between Nepal and Tibet, the delegation will discuss with Tibetan and Chinese authorities an opening of other entry and exit points for tourists who want to visit Nepal's northern border and across the Himalayas to Tibet," the official said.

China invaded Tibet in 1951, two years after the commuists were victorious in their civil war with the Nationalists.

### State Bank Governor: New Policies Boost to Economy

*BK0305114793 Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 26 Apr 93 p 1*

[Text] Kathmandu, April 25—Governor of the Nepal Rastra [State] Bank, Hari Shankar Tripathi says that the implementation of new industrial, trade, foreign exchange, joint venture, and one- door policies has enhanced the efficiency in the utilization and allocation of the national and international means and resources available and, thereby made the economy more dynamic and competitive.

In a statement given today on the occasion of the 38th anniversary of Nepal Rastra Bank, he said that a strong background has been prepared for His Majesty's Government [HMG] to reach the goal of sustainable economic development.

Stating that the gross domesic product seems to increase by three percent in the current fiscal year, Mr. Tripathi said the price situation during the first nine months of the current fiscal year remarkably improved and the price index of the national consumers has increased by 7.5 percent.

During the corresponding period last year, the rate of price increase was 20.8 percent.

During the first eight months of the current fiscal year, no improvement was noticed in the government financial balance, the statement says.

The statement also points out the need for cutting expenditures in the unproductive and non-priority projects and making additional efforts in the mobilisation of internal revenues.

The achievement made in the foreign trade is satisfactory. The foreign trade in the first eight months of the current fiscal year increased by 32.3 percent to 11.20 billion, whereas the import trade soared by 9.2 percent to 22.76 billion, it is stated.

The slackness in the import trade during the review period caused the total import trade to slow down by 6.6 percent. However, the balance of payment is satisfactory.

Till mid-April, the total foreign exchange reserves stood at Rs. [rupees] 31.01 billion. During the same period the year before the foreign exchange reserve was 22.36 billion.

The growth rate of the monetary expansion this year remained high (8.6 percent) as compared with the last year (17.7) percent due to remarkable increase in foreign assets.

Noting that expected success has been achieved in the establishment of financial institutions and new banks, Mr. Tripathi hoped that the changes in the existing liquidity and reserve money programme will significantly contribute to the improvement of banking system. Governor Tripathi said that two rural development banks have also been established with a view to improving the economic condition of the disadvantaged rural classes by providing loans in an effective and easy manner.

Hoping that the banking and financial institutions of the country will contribute to making HMG liberal economic policy a success, Mr. Tripathi noted that Nepal Rastra Bank as central bank will be more effortful and determined in this regard.

## Pakistan

### Government Welcomes U.S. Help in Problems With India

*BK0505141893 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Pakistan would welcome offers of assistance by all friendly countries, including the United States, to overcome its problems with India, particularly the Kashmir dispute. This was stated by a Foreign Office spokesman at a briefing in Islamabad today.

A State Department official, during a Congressional hearing, had expressed U.S. readiness to help India and Pakistan resolve their problems.

### U.S. Urged To Reestablish Closer Ties

*BK0505122993 Lahore PAKISTAN in Urdu 1 May 93 p 10*

[Editorial: "Pakistan not To Compromise on Principles"]

[Text] Prime Minister Mir Balkh Sher Mazari has said that Pakistan desires cordial, friendly relations with the United States, but it will not compromise its principles for this. He stated this during a meeting with U.S. Ambassador in Pakistan John Cameron Monjo. This was the ambassador's first formal meeting with the caretaker prime minister after the dismissal of the previous government, during which the two sides held an in-depth discussion on various issues. Referring to the domestic situation, the prime minister said he believes in the supremacy of the Constitution and the change in government is totally in keeping with the provisions of the Constitution. As far as elections are concerned, they will definitely be held on the due date.

The prime minister expressed the hope that existing irritants in U.S.-Pakistan relations will be removed through negotiations and the original relationship of trust and understanding between the two countries will be restored because such a relationship is highly essential for strengthening and maintaining peace and stability in the region. Pakistan also desires to have good relations with its neighbors and wants them to reciprocate in the same spirit and cooperate in making South Asia the cradle of peace and security by observing the principles of justice and equality.

The feelings and sentiments expressed by Prime Minister Mazari in the context of Pakistan's relations with the United States are an actual reflection of the collective thought of the nation as well as the reiteration of a vital need. The United States is presently the sole superpower in the world and nobody can deny its influence and the role it plays in global affairs and events. Pakistan has had an age-old relationship with the United States. Both were considered allies of each other. There have definitely been some ups and downs in their relationship in the past, but things were settled immediately and the close and harmonious relationship between the two countries was revived before long. But the period of coolness in their relations has been longer this time. This may be so because of certain U.S. misunderstandings or some other reasons, or due to Washington's own objectives. But Pakistan desires the original warmth in its contacts and ties with the United States, because as the caretaker prime minister stated, Islamabad considers such relations vital for promoting and preserving peace and security in South Asia.

While apprising the U.S. ambassador of Pakistan's stand on terrorism, the prime minister said that Islamabad is strongly opposed to terrorism, both at the domestic and international levels, and has openly condemned and considers it the most heinous and inhuman crime. The allegations about Pakistan's involvement in terrorism are totally baseless, and that is why there is no justification for declaring Pakistan a terrorist state. Pakistan has been and will continue to provide moral, diplomatic and political support to the Kashmiri people but has never given them any material assistance. Hence, the allegations that Pakistan is providing material support to the Kashmiri freedom fighters is totally unfounded and fabricated. The United States ought not to be misled by the propaganda campaign in this regard and it should stop thinking about declaring Pakistan a terrorist state.

Washington's objections to Pakistan's nuclear program are also totally baseless because Pakistan's nuclear program is solely for peaceful purposes. Electricity, among other things, is essential for the country's economic, industrial, and agricultural development, and under present conditions electricity can be produced mostly through nuclear technology. Acquisition of nuclear energy is vital for the survival of Pakistan and that is why it cannot abandon its nuclear program. Pakistan does not have any hesitation in signing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. But as long as India does not sign it, Pakistan will also not sign. This is Pakistan's principled stand and there is no question of any deviation from it.

The prime minister also explained to the U.S. ambassador the objectives of the caretaker government, which are totally in keeping with national interests. Pakistan believes in safeguarding and maintaining peace and security both at the regional and global levels and supports resolution of international problems and disputes through peaceful means and bilateral negotiations. It is always willing to forge friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation with its neighbors and emphasizes the need for maintaining and further deepening and expanding its age-old friendly ties with the United States; but it will never compromise on principles. Since the United States itself abides by principles, it can be expected that it will respect Pakistan's scrupulous adherence to principles as well, and in view of Islamabad's categorical assurances, it will forgo the misunderstandings it has about Pakistan. On terrorism and nuclear issues, two things are crystal clear. First, Pakistan considers terrorism an unforgivable crime which it does not dare think of committing; and second, Islamabad does not intend to manufacture nuclear weapons and is against the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the threat of use of nuclear weapons against nonnuclear states. It supports declaring South Asia a nuclear-weapon-free zone and has already proposed a five-nation conference in this regard. Islamabad hopes that the United States will fulfill its global responsibility in strengthening peace and security in this region and will not show any more hesitation and reluctance in restoring bilateral ties to their original level and in maintaining cooperation with Pakistan.

## Editorial Examines 'Wholesale Changes' at ISI

*BK0105134793 Islamabad THE NATION in English 1 May 93 p 6*

[Editorial: "Intelligence Services"]

[Text] The replacement of Lt Gen [Lieutenant General] Javed Nasir by Lt Gen Javed Ashraf as head of ISI [Inter-Services Intelligence], although not unexpected, raises the issue of wholesale changes in the Intelligence set-up, civil and military, every time a governmental change occurs in Islamabad. The terse announcement of the change offers no explanation for its need. It becomes difficult, therefore, to judge what was the fault of the previous incumbent in the post. The fact is that the politicisation of the Intelligence agencies, which began in Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's time and was further consolidated during the Zia regime, has now had a virtual seal of permanence placed on it. The current change has to be set against the background of shuffles and reshuffles at the pinnacle of the intelligence pyramid with each change in government in recent years. During Benazir's Prime Ministership, an "outsider", General Kallu, was taken out of the mothballs of retirement and appointed over the protests of the intelligence community. The result was that Gen Kallu failed to gain the confidence of his own subordinates during his tenure. GHQ [General Headquarters] was sufficiently worried by his appointment to have reportedly enhanced the role of Military Intelligence to overlap some of the functions which properly belonged in the sphere of the ISI's operations. This was a situation hardly conducive to the efficient and coordinated performance of the vital intelligence tasks so crucial for the security of the state. Lately, Brig [Brigadier] Imtiaz' controversial role, first as one of the principal actors in the "Midnight Jackals" episode during the move for a no-confidence motion against Benazir Bhutto's government, and then as a weighty political advisor in Nawaz Sharif's kitchen cabinet, pointed to the overstepping of the proper function of intelligence. All these aberrations can be traced directly to the tendency on the part of successive governments to employ the intelligence agencies as weapons in the struggle against their political opponents. The result was that instead of intelligence information being sifted and analysed at the proper levels and through proper channels in order to arrive at informed decisions by the authorities, some sections of the intelligence community started operating virtually on auto-pilot with their own agenda, sometimes at odds with the priorities of the government of the day.

If a dispassionate analysis is made of the implications of these experiences and their effect on the efficacy of the intelligence services, it is plain as days that what is required is for these agencies to be run on purely professional lines without involving them in the necessarily transitory concerns of whoever happens to be in power at any given moment. There are certain permanent interests of the state which should not be subjected to the ebb and flow of the political fortunes of contenders for office. Those interests can only be adequately served if the function of intelsligence gathering and reporting is thoroughly professionalised and appointments to the top positions in the intelligence services guided by a normal pattern of promotion based on hierarchy, seniority, merit and competence.

## Party Conference Delegation Meets President

*BK0205100093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0900 GMT 2 May 93*

[Text] An 11-member delegation of the All-Party Conference called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan at President's House in Islamabad today. During the meeting they exchanged views with the president on the country's political situation and holding free, fair, and impartial elections. Those who called on the president were: Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, Sardar Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari, Ghulam Mustafa Khar, Abdul Rafiq Pirzada, Mansoor Ahmad Gichki, Khurshid Mahmud Kasoori, Malik Mohammad Qasim, Mohammad Afzal Khan, Malik Miraj Mohammad Khan, and Professor Dr. Tahirul Qadri.

## Poor Turnout for Sindh Assembly By-Elections

*BK0505144093 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] By-elections for 20 seats of Sindh assembly were held today in Karachi, Hyderabad and other districts of the province. Three hundred and fifteen candidates belonging to various political parties and independents are taking part in the by-elections. The total number of voters in these constituencies is over 2.2 million; 1,104 polling stations were established for these voters. Security arrangements were made on the occasion and the personnel of the law enforcement agencies and the Army were deployed outside the polling stations and for the patrol duty on the occasion. The polling was held for 13 seats in Karachi, four in Hyderabad, and one each in Mirpur Khas, Nawabshah and Badin. The polling started at 0800 and continued till 1700.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0955 GMT on 5 May, in a similar story, adds: "A poor turnout here Wednesday marred the first by- elections held under a two-week old caretaker government, as a major party warned voters to stay indoors amid fears of violence.

"Witnesses said several polling stations were empty two hours after voting had started while at some places even the agents of the candidates were not visible.

"Three people were injured in a clash between rival groups in Badin about 90 kilometers (55 miles) north of here, the official Associated Press of Pakistan said.

"Reports reaching here from Badin said some federal ministers and People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) deputies were attacked by opponents while campaigning for their candidates for allegedly chanting provocative slogans.

"PDA supporters have charged the ministers presence was part of the provincial government's plan to 'rig' the elections.

"In Karachi's 13 seats the MQM-Haqiqi is likely to win by a landslide because of the very low turn out.

"The lack of voters response was linked to fears of clashes following a boycott call given by the MQM to protest the killing of its chairman by unknown assailants here Saturday.

"However, PDA candidates were expected to face tough competition in the remaining seven seats being contested in other parts of Sindh Province, where the conservative Pakistan Muslim League was also in the arena."]

## Prime Minister Briefed on Air Force Operations

*BK0505144893 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The prime minister, Mir Balkh Sher Mazari, visited Air Headquarters, Chaklala, today. On his arrival, he was received by Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Farooq Feroze Khan. The principal staff officers of the Air Headquarters were introduced to the prime minister. The federal minister for finance, Sardar Farooq Ahmad Leghari; Federal Minister of Defense Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani, and Federal Minister of Defense Production Mr. Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao accompanied the prime minister. They remained with the air chief for quite some time and discussed important security matters relating to the defense of the aerial frontiers of the country. Later, the prime minister was conducted into a briefing on structures of the PAF [Pakistan Air Force]. The peacetime and wartime roles of Pakistan Air Force were also highlighted during the session. Besides, the PAF state of readiness, the combat potentialities, and the problems relating to these capabilities were taken up in the course of problems [as heard]. The comprehensive briefing also included a question-and-answer session.

## Sharif Seeks Legal Help in Restoring Democracy

*BK0505154693 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, president of his faction of the Pakistan Muslim League, addressed the local high court bar association in Multan today and said that he is striving for the restoration of democracy and the supremacy of the Constitution in the country. He urged the lawyers fraternity to cooperate with him in achieving these objectives. Talking to newsmen during a reception in Multan, Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said that every one should remain ready to face accountability. In reply to a question about an election alliance with other parties, he said that we will cooperate with parties which have been cooperating with us.

## Sharif Promises New Political System

*BK0605093893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Addressing a public meeting in Bahawalpur last night, Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, president of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Group, has said that his party will introduce a new political system in the country through the people's mandate. He claimed that he had established the supremacy of law in the country. Nawaz Sharif rejected the allegations against his government.

## Bhutto, Sharif Urged To Form Alliance

*BK0505132593 Rawalpindi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 28 Apr 93 p 4*

[Editorial: "Supremacy of the establishment—the need for the unity of real political forces"]

[Text] During a meeting with members of the Sindh cabinet and the provincial assembly in Karachi, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has assured that provincial assemblies will not be dissolved. New Punjab Chief Minister Manzur Ahmed Wattoo has also said that those who are creating an impression that the Punjab assembly will be dissolved should know that it will not happen. Federal Information Minister Maulana Kausar Niazi, talking to newsmen in Lahore, said that there is no provision in the Constitution under which provincial assemblies ought to be dissolved in the event of a dissolution of the National Assembly. The question is where is the provision in the Constitution that the National Assembly should be dissolved after two or two and half years of its formation? Punjab Chief Minister Wattoo also argued that the Senate and provincial assemblies are functioning, work is continuing, and National Assembly elections will also be held later. The fact is that it is not enough to have the Senate and provincial assemblies. It is the National Assembly which is the real legislative body. Of course, the Senate has its own status as a permanent body. But the House of Lords has no importance in the country from where we borrowed the parliamentary system. The House of Commons shoulders the entire responsibility in running the system.

An immediate task before the National Assembly in our country is to prepare the next budget. Evidently, the control of the house at present has slipped into the hands of a nonrepresentative and worthless front, or in the words of Nawaz Sharif, to a flickering front. It is obvious how sensitive a nonelected and nonrepresentative government, which came to power through the backdoor, can be to the people's sentiments and feelings and how well-informed it can be about the nation's financial, economic, and trade requirements.

On the one hand, arguments are being made for maintaining the provincial assemblies, while on the other hand pressure is being exerted by issuing statements to dissolve them. The drama played by the Punjab assembly has negated the justification for its existence. Ms. Benazir Bhutto also protested it in very strong words. She said that "there had been worst kind of horse-trading against Wyne." National Democratic Alliance [NDA] leader Abdul Hafiz Pirzada has also said that "there was no horse-trading in Punjab, it was donkey- trading." Ms Benazir Bhutto also reaffirmed her ultimatum that "we will withdraw from the government if provincial assemblies are not dissolved as was promised." The People's Democratic Alliance and the NDA also threatened to quit the government on the question of the future of provincial assemblies and have also called an urgent meeting of the All Party Conference. When Maulana Fazlur Rahman was formally invited by Prime Minister Balkh Sher Mazari to join the federal cabinet, the former also set the condition that "it is not possible to accept the invitation if the provincial assemblies, which are the product of fraud, are not dissolved."

The statements and counterstatements indicate that the apprehension of an end to the honeymoon between the president and the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] may turn out to be a reality. Though inclusion of the PPP in the caretaker cabinet has already served the objectives of both the president and the PPP, the president has exposed the PPP's claim of adherence to democracy and policies. And the PPP, by getting Asif Zardari sworn in as the minister, has proved that the president's August 1990 charges against him were false. In fact, the dissolution of the National Assembly, formation of the caretaker cabinet, and the drama of the Punjab assembly have exposed many people. They sacrificed principles in order to take revenge on others. They had the same objective—to depose Nawaz Sharif by any means and to deprive him from any political support in the future as well. But it was a very narrow objective in the national politics, and none of the parties succeeded in fulfilling its long-standing objectives. All of them are trapped in a quagmire.

The national political forces should now formulate their future political strategy keeping in mind that whatever happened due to confrontation against each other was unavoidable and it will be better to forget it as a matter of past. It is advisable to forget the mistakes of the past in the greater interests of the nation and the country and to cooperate and work together in the future to protect the system of government from real threats, and to cooperate in at least one point such as doing away with the controversial section of the Eighth Amendment and provisions contradictory to the parliamentary system from the Constitution. Cooperation can also be made in abrogating the presidential discretion to dissolve the National Assembly and including a provision of accountability of a corrupt prime minister by the National Assembly itself.

To fulfill this objective, cooperation between Mian Nawaz Sharif and Ms. Benazir Bhutto is all the more important in view of the fact that the country's establishment is bent on engaging in a confrontation with both of them. Such cooperation will result in a national consensus through which Pakistan's Army can be convinced that instead of taking interest in the country's authority and political affairs it should concentrate on the country's frontiers. The threat to our frontiers is not concealed to anyone. India may select a new front of its choice. The situation in Kashmir is becoming more serious. Reports say that General Shamim Alam and General Abdul Waheed visited the frontier and instructed the troops to remain alert. We feel that politicians should neither seek the help of the Army in pursuit of their power, nor should they create a situation by their deeds or misdeeds in which it becomes unavoidable for the Army to seize power. But in either case, it is not possible for the Army to engage itself in politics and run the government. The Army's involvement in power politics in the past resulted in the dismemberment of the country and forced 90,000 troops to surrender. The situation may get out of control if the present state of disorder and anarchy, God forbid, continues. What needs to be done is to create an understanding and seek a means for cooperation and joint action by Ms Benazir Bhutto and Mian Nawaz Sharif in the greater interest of the country and the nation. These are two forces in the country at present which have roots among the people. They should launch joint efforts and rid the country from the grip of the civil bureaucracy, which is run either by present or retired bureaucrats.

It is evident that the civil bureaucracy played a prominent role whenever an elected government was dismissed. And now, the president has dissolved the elected parliament a second time. The president is a senior bureaucrat. A coterie of retired bureaucrats is always active around him and the establishment extends full support to these bureaucrats. This coterie of bureaucrats is paid from the national exchequer only to assist in running the country's administration in accordance with the existing system and not to overshadow or dominate the system or to destroy it if they do not succeed in their attempt to overshadow or dominate it. The country's politicians should forge a strong, active and stable political alliance and joint action to end the predominance and bad influence of the civil bureaucracy and to establish the supremacy of a political, democratic, parliamentary and elected government in the country.

### Press Reports on Foreign Currency Accounts Denied

*BK0505145493 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The federal government has not taken any decision on the conversion of foreign currency accounts into the rupee account. A spokesman of the Finance Ministry said in Islamabad today that the report appearing in a section of the press today in this regard is totally misleading, mischievous and without any basis.

## Sri Lanka

### Nationwide Curfew After 6 May Funeral Announced

*BK0605042693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0413 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Colombo, May 6 (AFP)—The Sri Lankan Government decided on a nine-hour nation-wide night curfew immediately after the state funeral of assassinated president Ranasinghe Premadasa taking place Thursday, the information director said.

Information director Sunanda Maddumabandra said the curfew was aimed at preventing violence after the funeral, which is to be attended by a host of foreign dignitaries.

Tension had been mounting in the capital amid fears of an anti-Tamil backlash for the murder of Premadasa, a member of the majority Sinhalese community, carried out by a suspected activist from the Tamil Tiger guerrilla group.

### Pakistan's Mazari Arrives To Attend Funeral

*BK0605081893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] The prime minister, Mir Balkh Sher Mazari, arrived in Colombo this morning to represent Pakistan at the funeral of the late Sri Lankan president, Mr. Ranasinghe Premadasa. He met the wife of the late president to condole the tragic assassination of her husband and said Pakistan has lost a true friend in the passing away of President Premadasa. Later, Mr. Balkh Sher Mazari called on the acting Sri Lankan president, Mr. D.B. Wijetunge. In the afternoon, the prime minister will participate in the funeral rites of President Premadasa. He is accompanied by the members of his entourage.

Earlier, in a message to the Indian prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, while overflying Indian territory, the prime minister expressed Pakistan's sincere desire to establish tension-free and cooperative relations with India on the basis of universally accepted principles of mutual respect and sovereign equality of states.